Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-87-187 28 September 1987

CONTENTS

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Pact Military Council Meets in Prague 1
Husak Receives Kulikov, Others 1
CEMA Reviews Spent Nuclear Fuel Document *[Maksimov]* 1
CEMA, Finland Convene on Atomic Energy 1
Yakovlev Meets With Socialist Sports Leaders 2

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' *[Yefimov, Agayants, Sobolev]* 3
Further on Shevardnadze's New York Trip 8
Meets Counterparts 8
Receives Photo Collection 8
Departs After UN Session 9
Gerasimov on Peres Meeting *[Tel Aviv DAVAR 27 Sep]* 9
Further Reportage on 42d UNGA Session 9
PPR, DRA Ministers Comment *[V. Lobachenko]* 9
Security Council Considers Gulf 9
UNGA Results Reported *[Babykov, Chernyshov]* 10
Security Council Statement 10
Iraq Supports UN Resolution 10
Cerezo, Khamenei Speak *[Prozhogin, Sukhov in PRAVDA 24 Sep]* 11
Iran's Velayati Sends Letter 11
Kohl Invitation Violates Berlin Agreement 11
Zhukov Sees Opportunity for Arms Accords *[PRAVDA 19 Sep]* 12
Petrosyants Addresses IAEA Session 13
Further Reportage 13
Meeting Ends 18 Sep 14
Seventh Round of Edinburgh Talks Begins 14
Solovyev Addresses Friendship Societies *[PRAVDA 18 Sep]* 14
New Ambassadors to Malta, Burkina Faso Named *[PRAVDA 18 Sep]* 15

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

'Lies and Deceit' Called U.S. 'State Policy' 16
U.S. Showing 'Negative Attitude' in Gulf 16
Pentagon's 'Iran Ajr' Story Lacks Proof *[Knyazkov]* 17
Reports, Comments on Weinberger's Gulf Trip 17
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Preview *[25 Sep]* 17
Remarks on Iranian Vessel 18
Urges Continued Presence 18
Talks Pressure Arabs 18
Reagan Opposes Cuts in Military Spending 18
Bush To Explain U.S. Stands on Europe Trip 18
Arrives in Italy 19
News Conference in Rome 19
Bush's Vote Decides SDI Funding Issue *[PRAVDA 24 Sep]* 19
U.S. Resumes 'Fuss' Over Moscow Embassy *[Ptashnikov]* 20

China

Foreign Ministers' 'Friendly Talks' Noted 21
U.S. Pursuit of 'Two Chinas' Policy Cited *[Ivanov]* 21
Chinese Cultural Delegation Visits Kiev 22

Northeast Asia

Shevardnadze Warns Kuranari on Dispute *[Tokyo KYODO]* 22
Japanese Deputies Arrive in Moscow 23
More on Dolgikh's Visit to Mongolia 23
Meets With Batmonh *[PRAVDA 23 Sep]* 23
Visits Mongolian Plants *[PRAVDA 25 Sep]* 23
Visits USSR Embassy 24
Further Meeting With Batmonh 24
Concludes Visit 26 Sep 24
Stops Off in Irkutsk 24
Met by Talyzin in Moscow 24

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Hun Sen on Sihanouk Statement 24
Nishanov Receives SRV Chief Justice *[IZVESTIYA 25 Sep]* 25
Eavesdropping in Australia 'Absurd' 25

Near East & South Asia

Reportage on Situation in Persian Gulf 25
Embassy in Beirut Denies Arms Sales to Iran *[Beirut]* 26
Brutents Reportedly Meets PLO Official *[KUNA]* 26
Vorontsov Receives Iranian Ambassador 26
Antipov Interviewed on Tel Aviv Assignment *[IZVESTIYA 27 Sep]* 26
Envoy to Jordan on Gulf War, Other Issues *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 26 Sep]* 27
Katushev's Visit, Talks in Iraq Reported *[IZVESTIYA 23 Sep]* 29
Iraqi Minister Praises Economic Cooperation 30
Wakil Comments on Soviet Stand on DRA 30
Dobrynin Receives Indian Parliamentarian 30
Gorbachev Message Handed to YAR President 30
Tatilyev Meets With YAR's Salih 26 Sep 31
PDRY Premier Stops Over; Met by Tolstykh *[PRAVDA 22 Sep]* 31
BRIEFS 31
Protocal Signed 31

East Europe

Slyun'kov Receives Visiting SED Delegation 31
Bulgaria's Radev, Delegation Begin Visit *[IZVESTIYA 23 Sep]* 31
Shcherbitskiy Receives Outgoing Consul *[Ratau in PRAVDA UKRAINY 26 Sep]* 32
CPCZ's Jakes Writes on Restructuring 32
Letters Sent to Editorial Board Reviewed 32

West Europe

FRG-French Military Ties Viewed *[Chernyshev]* 33
French Socialist Jospin Visits Moscow 34
Arrives 22 Sep 34
Meets With Solovyev 34
Meets With Ligachev 34
Departs 26 Sep 35

Latin America & Caribbean

Shevardnadze Arrives in Brazil 27 Sep 35
Brazil's Sodre on Visit *[Golenkov]* 35
4,000 Contras Reportedly Desert This Year 35
Castro on Nicaragua, U.S. 'Aggression' 35

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Gorbachev 'Resting'; Will Appear 'Soon' *[Paris]* 37
Dissident Poet Expected To Leave for West *[AFP]* 37
Slyunkov Addresses Restructuring Seminar 37
Zaykov Attends Machine-Builders Day Meeting 37
Solovev Attends Leningrad Ceremony 37
RSFSR Supreme Soviet To Meet 29 Oct 37
Academicians Discuss Economic Restructuring 38
Central Committee Censures Irbit Gorkom 40
Family Planning Program in Tajikistan Viewed 40
Composers' Union Board Holds Plenum *[IZVESTIYA 25 Sep]* 41
Veteran Responds on Views of History *[SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 22 Sep]* 41
PRAVDA Reviews Contents of KOMMUNIST No 14 *[24 Sep]* 42
BRIEFS 42
Aids Conference Underway 42

Economic

Commissions Discuss 1988 Draft Plan, Budget 42
Voronin Interviewed on Wholesale Trade *[PRAVDA 23 Sep]* 43

Agricultural

Mid-September Weather, Crop Status Reviewed *[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 24 Sep]* 46
Cyclone Imperils Central Volga Harvest *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Sep]* 46
Papers Call For Urgent Help With Harvest
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 25 Sep] 47
Potato Harvesting Pace 'Clearly Inadequate' *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Sep]* 47
Supply of Machinery for Harvest Criticized 47
Zaykov, Nikonov Visit Moscow Oblast *[PRAVDA 24 Sep]* 48
Vorotnikov Visits Pskov Oblast *[PRAVDA 24 Sep]* 49
Preparation for Next Year's Harvest Urged *[PRAVDA 25 Sep]* 49
Economist Urges Flexibility in Farm Targets *[IZVESTIYA 22 Sep]* 50
Media Report 23-24 Sep Developments 53

Scientific

'Progress-32', 'Mir' Dock in Orbit 54
'Biological' Satellite To Launch Late Sep 54
Space Experiment Prospects Outlined 54

Military

Carrier Rocket Tests in Pacific Planned 55
Exercises in Transcaucasus 22-27 September 55
Exercises Continue 55
Conclude 27 Sep 55
Yazov Addresses Military College Meeting 55
Volga MD Air Force Commander Identified 56

Pact Military Council Meets in Prague

LD261723 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—The Military Council of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-states held a meeting in the capital of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on September 24-26. The meeting was chaired by Commander-in-Chief of the Joint Armed Forces Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov.

The meeting was attended by the Military Council members and also senior officials of the Warsaw Treaty defence ministries and administrative bodies of the Joint Armed Forces.

The Military Council discussed the results of operational and combat training of the Joint Armed Forces for 1987 and specified tasks for their training in the new training year with due account for the joint document of the Warsaw Treaty member-states on the military doctrine and its strictly defensive direction, which was adopted at the Berlin conference of the Political Consultative Committee.

A useful exchange of opinions was held on some other questions of activities of the Joint Armed Forces.

The meeting of the Warsaw Treaty Military Council has demonstrated the identity of views on all questions discussed. It was held in an atmosphere of friendship and close cooperation between the Warsaw Treaty armies.

Husak Receives Kulikov, Others

LD261302 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1212 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Prague, 26 Sep (TASS)—Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, has received here Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces; Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces; and other leading representatives of the Armed Forces Joint Command who have been taking part in the work of a session of the Joint Armed Forces Military Council in Prague.

During a meeting held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, Marshal of the Soviet Union V. Kulikov acquainted G. Husak with the results of the Joint Armed Forces Military Council session.

G. Husak stressed that definite positive trends leading to a relaxation of tension are appearing in the development of the international situation. In this connection a high appraisal was given of the constructive peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and of the other Warsaw Pact member states aimed at solving existing world problems. At the same time the importance of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact member states, which is exclusively defensive in nature, was expecially noted.

Having expressed complete support for the idea submitted by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, of establishing a comprehensive system of international security, G. Husak noted that the Czechoslovak people perceive with satisfaction the achievement of a fundamental accord on the signing of a Soviet-U.S. treaty on medium and short-range nuclear missiles.

Army General Milan Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, and other officials, took part in the meeting.

CEMA Reviews Spent Nuclear Fuel Document

LD251750 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—TASS correspondent Yuriy Maksimov reports:

The Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) at its 124th sitting in Moscow recently adopted rules for the safe carriage of spent nuclear fuel from nuclear power stations in CMEA countries by rail and sea.

Mikhail Kudryashov, head of the Legal Department of the CMEA Secretariat, said part of these rules is a convention on liability for damage cuased by a radiation accident in the international transportation of spent nuclear fuel.

The document has been signed by government officials from Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia and is now to be ratified.

The convention aims to ensure efforts to deal with the consequences of a radiation accident, should such an accident occur during the international transportation of fuel, through compensation for damage.

The consequences of an accident are to be eliminated by the state in whose territory the accident has taken place or its consequences have manifested themselves. Both the damages are to be paid by the country to blame for the accident.

The convention, Kudryashov said, is open to the other CMEA countries which have adopted the rules for the safe carriage of spent nuclear fuel from nuclear power stations in CMEA countries.

After its entry into force the convention will be sent to the U.N. Secretariat for registration.

CEMA, Finland Convene on Atomic Energy

LD241952 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] An international conference of the CEMA member-countries and Finland at Interatomenergo has ended in Moscow. It examined questions of cooperation in the

construction and technical servicing of atomic stations. The increase of the electricity potential of the CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000 will be carried out at the expense of atomic energy. Avenues of expanding cooperation in this area were outlined , including a joint quest for new technical solutions in manufacturing equipment for atomic energy stations.

Yakovlev Meets With Socialist Sports Leaders

LD251541 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Comrade Yakovlev, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today met leaders of sports organizations of socialist countries. While dwelling on the tasks of physical education in socialist society, Comrade Yakovlev noted its increasing importance in enhancing the health of the population and in the harmonious development of an individual. He spoke about specific measures being undertaken by the CPSU and the Soviet Government in this area. Great attention was paid to matters related to the activization of efforts on the part of sports organizations in socialist countries toward affirming long-lasting and universal peace. The participants in the meeting imparted their impressions regarding the Conference of the Leaders of Sport Organizations of Socialist Countries, held 21-24 September in Sukhumi. The meeting passed in an atmosphere of cordiality, frankness, and mutual understanding on all matters discussed.

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable'

LD271845 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 27 Sep 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, first deputy editor in chief of IZVESTIYA, and All-Union Radio Commentators Nikolay Ivanovich Agayants and Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev]

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello, comrades! Over the past few years we have grown accustomed to bad news in the field of international relations, and here I am thinking primarily of East-West relations. I would even go so far as to say that we have got used to news of that kind, although we have not given up hope. And so now, at a time when good news has started to come in again, one doesn't want to let a single piece of good news slip by; one wants to pay due attention to each, to compare and establish the winning trend. For example, U.S. observers are giving assurances that the present U.S. President has learned to view the Soviet Union with respect. At a recent press conference in connection with the announcement of the understanding in principle concerning medium- and lower-range nuclear missiles, Reagan was asked teasingly: But what about the Evil Empire? The President replied in a similar tone: I still don't think they're lily white.

Well, that kind of thing one can live with. I do not think that we shall have grounds for expecting to appear lily white in the eyes of the master of the White House in the foreseeable future. The important thing is that we can talk and reach agreement; the important thing is that it's not a matter of personal feeling and caprice. Frenzied anti-Sovietism has turned out to be bad policy, just as frenzied militarism has.

The goods news that has started to come in has of course also been brought about by subjective causes, by the efforts of the Soviet leadership, and, it must be admitted, by steps in response taken by the United States and the FRG, too. But I still think that the main thing is the objective processes and the striving by millions of people for peace, security, and a tranquil future for our children.

[Agayants] Be that as it may, the international situation today is not the same as it was 2 or 3 years ago. It is becoming increasingly difficult for anti-Sovieteers in the West to maintain the image that they have created, that is to say the image of the Soviet Union as a bellicose, undemocratic state that does nothing but think about military expansion. Changes in attitudes to us are taking place in the consciouness of the public in the United States and its Atlantic allies—gradually, perhaps, but nevertheless they are taking place. Without doubt the development of this positive trend is being encouraged by the new politicaal thinking, by the flexibility and constructive nature of the Soviet Union's foreign policy actions. The new approaches to international affairs by which our diplomacy is guided are not just the only ones possible under current conditions, when the problem of the survivability of mankind has been placed on the cards, but they are absolutely realistic, too. This has been reflected in the well-known article by Comrade Gorbachev which was published in *Pravda* and *Izvestiya* and in the speech by USSR Foreign Minister Comrade Shevardnadze at the UN General Assembly session.

[Yefimov] Very many people in the United States—and not just in the United States, in the world in general—are discussing the question of how such an agreement has become possible. Everyone remembers perfectly well that about 7 years have passed since this Administration came to power, and everyone remembers how this Administration began. It began with the words of the U.S. President that the Soviet Union is an evil empire, that the treaties which had been concluded with the Soviet Union were wrong and that he would never sit down at the same table as communists for the purpose of conducting talks of any kind. But they have sat down—and they have not just sat down, they have held these talks, they have achieved an agreement of a kind; we hope that this agreement will be taken to its logical conclusion, that it will be ratified and implemented in practice, although no one today can really claim to be 100 percent sure of this.

[Sobolev] No one can say that.

[Yefimov] Nevertheless, how is it possible? Clearly there are several reasons. In the first place the 7 years in power have of course taught the U.S. President a great deal. Certainly, meetings like that in Geneva in 1985 and in Reykjavik in 1986 have not been in vain as far as he is concerned. Certainly those meetings have shown him a great deal and have opened his eyes a great deal; they have given him much experience of international affairs. Thirdly, many U.S. observers point out that his term in the White House is coming to an end and that the President is starting to think about how he is going to go down in history. And the result is that, unlike his predecessors, he has not concluded a single agreement with the Soviet Union on disarmament problems. This agreement, therefore, has given him the chance and is giving him the chance of going down in history with an agreement which could really be historic. And finally our own glasnost, our restructuring, which while they are totally our own internal affair, cannot be left out of the picture, either, because they are also exerting great influence abroad.

[Sobolev] I want to talk, too, about the prospects for bringing the Soviet-U.S. understanding to a conclusion and for taking it further. The possibility of this does exist and has even been mentioned jointly. Of course, there are certain obstacles to the practical implementation of that, but I would like to note their fairly blatant artificial and even paradozical nature. Here are some examples. In the United States they talk about Reagan's success in connection with the accords. But out of the six current would-be contenders from the Republican Party to stand for the Presidency next year, only one supports this accord, and he is Vice President Bush, who shares the

laurels with the master of the White House. And although the shadow of success falls upon the whole of the Republican Party, Bush's rivals in his own party evidently consider it to be of advantage to themselves politically to voice criticism, first of all in order to harm Bush in the eyes of the voters, and secondly, clearly in order to please the military-industrial complex.

Another example: the policy of accord with the Soviet Union is turning out to be so popular that the Republicans' opponents in the struggle for power, the Democrats, the opposition which has usually been ahead of the Republican Administration, has suddenly made a turn.

[Agayants] Many U.S. Democratic Congressmen state directly that a summit meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan and the signing of an agreement on medium- and lower-range missiles will substantially strengthen the Republicans' position and help the President to put right a situation which deteriorated considerably following the Iran-Contras scandal and to raise his personal prestige.

I would recall that, according to the results of public opinion polls, until quite recently the present administration's policy was approved of by only 30 percent of Americans questioned. Now this figure has risen somewhat and reached 46 percent. Those who received the accord on Euromissiles without any enthusiasm included General Galvin, commander of NATO armed forces, and Les Aspin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, a Democrat from the state of Wisconsin: Yes, the same Aspin who took part in the dialogue between parliamentarians from the USSR and the United States a few days ago—do you remember the telebridge? Thus the NATO strategist, with all the directness and bluntness of the soldier, frightened the public with the idea that the understanding on medium- and lower-range missiles will undermine the West's might and intensify the Soviet threat to the free world: whilst Les Aspin, when asked in a television interview about his attitude to a possible agreement on Euromissiles disclosed in melancholy tones that he'd give it three minus. He added: I regard this as a small step in the wrong direction. He put his pessimistic attitude down to the fact that the Soviet Union's great advantage in non-nuclear armaments is still preserved in Europe, and that Europe will now be in greater danger even than it was previously. (Pierre) Du Pont a former governor of the state of Delaware—incidentally he is one of the contenders for the Republican Party nomination for the Presidency-well, Du Pont said that this is a bad deal for the United States, because—and I quote—we Americans are entrusting our country's security to the probity of the Soviet government.

[Yefimov] Yes, clear opponents of an agreement have now declared themselves in the West, and there are many of them. Suffice it to say, for example, that *The New York Times*, and this is a serious newspaper in the United States, carried the following headline: The United States Licks the Red Boots. That is the assessment that they gave of the agreement. Military personnel-and primarily NATO military personnel—and a number of rightwing Congressmen say that it is of advantage only to the Soviet Union. The U.S. *Newsweek* magazine sets out their viewpoint as follows: NATO is giving up Pershings, which the NATO military regard as being the only weapon to have inspired fear in the Russians. The magazine considers that the Russians are eliminating a threat in the interests of their security. The Pershings will no longer be capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union within 4 to 8 minutes. But the Soviet SS-20 missiles never reached U.S. territory. This agreement is therefore unequal for both sides.

[Sobolev] In criticizing a possible agreement, and in doing so now with a particular passion, they are trying, so to speak, to win some kind of compensation, some kind of rearmament, if one is to use the terminology used in NATO, either in the area of conventional weapons or by bringing into Europe nuclear cruise missiles of a different range or by basing B-52 strategic bombers there. If an agreement on medium- and lower-range nuclear missiles is signed—and so far there is no full guarantee of this—then beyond that there is still the ratification of the treaty in the U.S. Senate, and that is yet another area for political struggle; there the Democrats, who do not want to see the Republican Administration having any success, are in the majority. According to evidence from observers accredited to the U.S. Congress, there are now approximately 20 senators who could vote against the treaty, and there are others who have some reservations. Twenty senators out of 100 is both a lot and a little: 34 votes against are enough for the treaty not...

[Yefimov, interrupting] Not to be ratified.

[Sobolev] Yes, quite simply it awaits the fate of the SALT-II treaty.

[Yefimov] Vitaliy Sergeyevich, in speaking about those who are opposed to this agreement we must not, nevertheless, get away from the main thing, that an overshelming majority of Americans, an overshelming majority of West Europeans and an overshelming majority of observers in the press—if one excludes, so to speak, a certain part of the French and the British press and the NATO military—an overshelming majority of statesmen in the West and in the developing countries and in the socialist countries are in favor of this agreement. They are in favor of this agreement because they see in this a very important step. Let me quote the words of Senator Edward Kennedy. This seems to be an important advance and I hope that this is only the beginning. This thought—I hope that this is only the beginning—can currently be seen on many pages in the Western press and can be heard in many television programs.

[Agayants] Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and a Democrat from the state of Rhode Island, spoke without any particular enthusiasm,

it is true, though it seems to me that he did so in an extremely sober way. The value of an agreement on medium-range nuclear forces, he noted, will in the final analysis depend upon whether or not it leads to subsequent agreements on strategic armaments and nuclear tests. As we see, the gamut of assessments is extremely large. It is extremely important, however, that even people who certainly cannot be suspected of having an affection for the Soviet Union, when they analyze the situation that has arisen, are trying to find the correct answer.

[Yefimov] At present the Americans are writing and talking a great deal about it being difficult to conduct talks with the Russians. We can say in equal measure that it is difficult for us, too, to conduct talks with the Americans.

[Sobolev] They themselves admit that they conduct talks in a tough way, and even boast of doing so.

[Yefimov] During the talks themselves there were a lot of tense and acute moments. We get a lot of letters from our readers asking whether our country hasn't made excessive concessions during the negotiations. Yes, we have made certain concessions, but the U.S. side has made certain concessions, too. To begin with the Americans did not want to destroy their Pershing missiles and their cruise missiles, for example. They proposed rebasing them on naval vessels or removing them to U.S. territory. No, they accepted our proposal, they made a concession, and agreed to destroy the missiles. The same thing happened with the warheads, and so on. Both sides have made concessions. For both sides the talks were difficult and this makes the outcome all the more gratifying, the fact that despite this they were able to reach agreement. Yes, this is only the beginning, yes, we, too, hope that this will be followed by an agreement on chemical weapons. We recently published in a newspaper article about a works near Kuybyshev where chemical weapons will be destroyed.

[Sobolev] We are even willing to destroy these without waiting for the signing of an agreement, and to do so in the presence of witnesses, so to speak, from abroad, that is to say publicly.

[Yefimov] We are in favor of cutting strategic weapons by 50 percent, again under certain conditions, if there are not going to be any Star Wars. We are in favor of radical cuts in conventional weapons with the object of bringing the level of these down to the limits of reasonable sufficiency, that is to say so that each side will have sufficient forces to defend itself but not enough to attack anyone. In other words, we are also making the same kind of reservations, we are also expressing these desires, but the main thing, I repeat, is that a majority, both in the United States and in Western Europe, welcomes this.

[Sobolev] Yes, in short, to sum up the results of our discussion of this issue, we can say that there are grounds for looking to the future with optimism.

I would like to mention now that good news is also coming in from South America, to continue on the subject of good news. The Guatemala Conference of the five presidents of the Central American countries on 7 August set a very tight schedule for the implementation of measures that have not been achieved over long years, despite the efforts undertaken by Latin America as well, with the support of the world public, of the whole world. An amnesty, democratization, a cease-fire and the cessation of support for nongovernmental armed formations and the use of one territory for attacking another are to be prepared by 7 november. National reconciliation commissions have been set up in four countries, with Honduras excluded.

Half of the period has already passed, and some things have been achieved. At any rate an executive commission composed of the foreign ministers of those same five countries convened on 17-18 September and worked according to the Guatemala timetable, and new steps were taken in the days that followed. Salvadoran President Duarte agreed to begin a dialogue with the rebels—something he has previously rejected point-blank. On the whole, however, one has to acknoledge that it is Nicaragua that is putting the Guatemala program into practice, and even ahead of schedule, with both the partial cease-fire and the democratization measures such as allowing the opposition newspaper *Prensa* to resume publication and the Catholic radio station to go back into operation. Thus, those who claim that Nicaragua does not intend to implement the Guatemala agreement, using this as a pretext for campaigning for continuing money and arms supplies to the somocites, are seeing their arguments crumble.

The U.S. Congress will soon have to reply to the White House's request for a new $270 million allocation for the Somazites, thereby determining whether or not the peace settlement process in Central America will be undermined. Congress has already earmarked $3.5 million for, allegedly, humanitarian purposes—that is, not for the contras' military requirements. That money is supposed to be used before 7 november, that is, before the deadline established in Guatemala, and it has been stated in the House of Representatives that this modest appropriation by no means signifies support for the Administration's Cental American policy.

Thus, October is becoming a crucial month, in the course of which a great deal will be determined: progress in the implementation of the Guatemala agreement, and the problem of the appropriations for the Somoza people. The White House and its mercenaries and proteges in Central America would like to wreck the agreement, but even without making too much effort to conceal their nagative attitude towards it they are forced into maneuvering. But the Nicaraguan government's good will is restricting their opportunities for maneuvering: from Monday, that is, tomorrow, the (Las Manos) point on the Honduran border resumes operation. Nicaraguans wishing to take advantage of the amnesty to return home can do so at this point, either through the Red Cross or the

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, or any way they like. Inside Nicaragua the national reconciliation commission is developing its activities—the central commission which, I remind you, is headed by Bishop Bravo, an extremely active critic of the Sandinistas. So one can say that the settlement process is developing in earnest, though, of course, it would be extremely imprudent to predict its success.

[Yefimov] You said that good news is coming in from Central America, but I would say that bad news is coming in as well.

[Sobolev] Of course.

[Yefimov] And more than enough bad news. Yes, the process is underway, yes, the Sandinistas are displaying both sincerity and honesty in their approach to resolving the problems, but the United States is still attempting to bring down by hook or by crook the legitimate government of Nicaragua. In an interview with the Nicaraguan agency the other day, Tinoco, Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister, stated that the Reagan administration is stubbornly banking on a continuation of the war against Nicaragua, and doing so in spite of efforts by the countries on Central America to establish a stable peace in the region. The U.S. attempts to wreck the implementation of the Guatemala agreement signed by the heads of the Cental American states became obvious during the debate at the UN General Assembly session. The U.S. government is deliberately playing down the significance of the measures being taken by Nicaragua in the framework of implementing the peace agreement. The United States, the deputy foreign minister stated, lays claim to the role of personal arbiter in the process of implementing the very accords which it is doing its utmost to bury.

The other day, our correspondent talked to John Stockwell, a well-known former U.S. diplomat, CIA employee and employee of the U.S. National Security Council, who is currently in Latin America. He is a man who had access to top secret documents, a man who knows everything from the inside, who knows policies from the primary source. When asked by the correspondent for his assessment of the situation today, he said literally the following: Reagan would like to begin a war against Nicaragua with approximately 100,000 soldiers. He is willing to permit losses of up to 3,000-4,000 men on condition that they can destroy up to 30,000 Nicaraguans. The main condition of the entire operation is its lightning-speed. He, that is, the U.S. President, will not follow the path taken by Johnson in Vietnam; I think, stated Stockwell, that the United States will attempt to deliver a powerful massive blow against all the country's vitally important centers. The United States could fly up to 20,000 men into Nicaragua in the course of a few days using c-130 and c-141 aircraft. The strategy is simple: once the towns are destroyed, drive the Sandinistan troops into the remote areas, drop bombs on them and burn them with napalm. However, even the United States—the mightiest state in the capitalist world—is not all powerful. It too has its problems. If it were now to act openly against Nicaragua it would arouse the most resolute rebuff from Latin America.

[Sobolev] One can say what one likes about the military outcome of such an attack, but there would be a guaranteed political defeat, and a crushing one, for the United States, and in my view, this is recognized, on the whole, in the upper echelons of the U.S. authorities as well.

But on the subject of bad news, one ought to mention that such news is also coming in from the Persian Gulf area. Eleven Kuwaiti tankers flying foreign flags are being protected there by 43 U.S. warships, with another 6 ready to join them, not counting several dozen ships belonging to other NATO countries. Under U.S. pressure Japan too is preparing to render assistance to the U.S. operations, as the Japanese press has reported. This socalled tanker war has already cost around 50 human lives, if we include those who died on the U.S. frigate *Stark*, and it is very difficult to hope that this total will not increase.

Speaking at the United nations organization, Comrade Shevardnadze called the Gulf situation critical, and the French bourgeois newspaper *Matin* writes that the Persian Gulf is a powder-keg where just one imprudent move would be enough to set off the mightiest explosion. Although polls show that most Americans support the administration's actions in the Persian Gulf, most of them also consider that those actions are leading to war.

About a month ago, a U.S. fighter launched missiles at an unidentified target. The pilot had seen flashes on the screen and had interpreted them as posing a great threat to himself. It appears that the missiles did'nt hit anybody, but now U.S. missiles have started killing. And the White House asserts that it will continue to act in this manner.

[Agayants] After all, it's no secret that the Pentagon and the CIA have plans for effecting a strike on strategic targets in Iran and for effectively combatting terrorism—as this is usually called. Shots are already resounding in the Persian Gulf, and blood has already been spilled. And, although President Reagan has stated that this in no way signifies that the United States has entered into a war with Iran, and that the shooting-up of an Iranian vessel and the taking prisoner of Iranian seamen is allegedly in keeping with the norms of international law, it appears tht the adventurist big stick policy has brought very much closer the dangerous moment of an open clash between the two countries, the consequences of which may prove to be simply unpredictable.

In an interview, published in the Iranian newspaper *Keyhan*, the commander of the Iranian Revolution Guard Corps, Mohsen Reza'i, stated that they shall deal a crushing retaliatory strike at the armed forces of the United States in the Persian Guif, if the United States again attacks Iran. It is clear that such a situation causes alarm and concern amongst all people of good will who

are appealing for reason, in order to urgently, and without prejudice with respect to one side or the other, take steps to relax the tension in the Gulf by way of the withdrawal from there of all foreign vessels.

As Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze said in his speech at the 42d session of the UN General Assembly, the security of navigation in the Gulf can and must be ensured by the international community, in whose name the United Nations will act. Simultaneously, and without delay, it is necessary to strive for a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq, and the implementation of the instructions of the UN secretary general on the setting up of an impartial body which would examine the question of the responsibility for this conflict. Such an option would make it possible to painlessly withdraw foreign naval forces from the region. Such is our position, and one thing is clear: it is time to act decisively and without delay.

And, as the newspaper *The Philadelphia Inquirer* says, the U.S. naval vessels which are in the Persian Gulf, continue to maintain their armed forces in a state of constant combat readiness, and they won't hestitate, if necessary, to open fire at any target. Thus, the dangerous flexing of muscles is, unfortunately, continuing. The visit there of the Pentagon chief, Weinberger, who, as is known, advocates a tough stance by the United States with regard to Iran, will hardly facilitate a lessening of tension in the region.

[Sobolev] And, to end the broadcast, I want to turn to restructuring in Hungary. This week they have discussed the program of economic and social stabilization for the period up to 1990, adopted by the government and approved by the State Assembly of the Republic.

[Agayants] I shall remind you that along with the generally known and generally acknowledged successes of the Hungarian economy, over a comparitively long period a process of accumulating difficulties and contradictions has been under way.

Hungary, just like many other states, adapted in an impermissibly slow way to the increased demands of the economy and scientific and technological progress. The correct decisions which were taken from year to year, were implemented unfortunately not always to the full and in an inconsistent fashion. The country experienced great losses as a result of unfavourable foreign economic changes. The development of the mechanism of the economy, as our Hungarian friends concede, and of the system of managing the economy was effected in a half-hearted and sluggish fashion. Under such conditions, it was necessary to take steps backward, to retreat from the planned targets. By the way, sometimes these targets bore no relation to the real situation in the Hungarian Peoples Republic and its capabilities, nor to the interests of long-term economic development.

In the present complex situation, the government program of economic and social stabilization says, the government will do everything in order, during the coming few years, to halt the inauspicious and negative processes and to stabilize the social and economic situation of society. To this end it is necessary to more broadly utilize the advantages proffered by the socialist system, to raise the efficiency of the economy and to create all the necessary conditions for its subsequent progress.

The plan of measures proposed embraces practically all spheres of activity of the Republic's economy. This plan is, without doubt, not simple, but is completely realistic.

[Sobolev] It must be noted that for the period of the implementation of the program mapped out by the Hungarian leadership, one ought temporarily to reckon on an increase in retail prices, and on a reduction in the consumption and real incomes of the population. This is what the Hungarian press says. A reform of the tax system will be undertaken. And, to compensate for this negative aspectof these changes for the population, and to protect the most needy strata of the population, additional funds for social policy will be allocated. Family benefits have been raised by 40 percent. Large families will receive tax benefits, and pensions will be increased.

So far as enterprises are concerned, the essence of the new system of prices and taxes is that only those enterprises whose production is at a high level, which the market will confirm, should receive profits.

[Agayants] To get the Hungarian economy out of the situation which it was in, the newspaper *Nepszabadsag* says, for its successful future development and to raise the standard of living if our people, a great contribution will be asked of each member of society in the forthcoming responsible period.

The need for restructuring has grown imminent not only in economics, but in other spheres of public life. The program has been adopted, and now it is necessary to set about implementing it. Communists should be in the vanguard of this movement, the newspaper stresses.

And, one should like to note another matter, it is this: at a press conference which was given for Hungarian and foreign journalists by the chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, Karoly Grosz, he said: The program of our government is based on two fundamental elements—socialist democracy, and national unity. In the course of the reform of economic policy, we shall continue to fulfill our international obligations. Hungary will continue to strive to deepen cooperation with the CEMA countries, and primarily with the Soviet Union. Before us, Grosz stressed, stands the task of increasing the level of our economic interaction, amongst the new forms of which, particularly expansive prospects are opening up in the sphere of direct contacts between enterprises of the USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic.

So, as you can see, very interesting and important events are taking place there.

[Sobolev] On that, comrades, we end the broadcast. Thank you for your attention, all the best.

Further on Shevardnadze's New York Trip

Meets Counterparts

LD260825 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0619 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (TASS)—A meeting was held here between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and R. Dizdarevic, SFRY federal secretary for foreign affairs. The meeting was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Satisfaction was voiced over the successful development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations, and the desire for a continued consolidation and deepening of the cooperation between the two countries was reaffirmed.

The heads of the foreign policy agencies of the two countries discussed topical international issues, including those present on the agenda of the 42d UN General Assembly session. Particular attention was devoted to the prospects for a broad international dialogue on the establishment of a comprehensive security system, the detailed concept of which was set out in M.S. Gorbachev's article "Reality and the Guarantees of a Secure World."

E.A. Shevardnadze met with the Turkish minister of foreign affairs, V. Halefoglu. The ministers exchanged opinions on some questions of bilateral relations as well as on a number of international and regional problems of mutual interest. The sides positively appraised the present development in Soviet-Turkish relations, primarily in the sphere of trade and economic cooperation; they stated that they were prepared to undertake steps to expand this cooperation.

During their discussion of international and regional problems particular attention was paid to the question of Cyprus, as well as to the conflict between Iran and Iraq and the situation in the Persian Gulf. On the Soviet side, the importance was noted of the convocation of an international conference on Cyprus for the purpose of making progress toward finding a solution to this problem.

During a conversation between the USSR foreign minister and T. Kuranari, the Japanese foreign minister, it was stressed from our side that the proposal to create a comprehensive system of international security presupposes the implementation of effective measures, including measures at regional level, aimed at overcoming confrontation and establishing trust in relations between countries. In this connection, E.A. Shevardnadze spoke in favor of stepping up efforts aimed at turning the Asian-Pacific region into a zone of security and mutually beneficial cooperation.

During discussion of problems concerning Soviet-Japanese relations it was noted that the development of political dialogue and the further expansion of cooperation on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual advantage would be in the interests of both countries.

At a meeting between E.A. Shevardnadze and Faruq al-Shar', foreign affairs minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, the situation in the Near East was discussed in detail. The two sides stressed the need for a very rapid shift toward practical steps for a Near East settlement by way of preparing the convocation of a plenipotentiary international conference with the participation of all interested parties, including the PLO.

The two ministers noted with satisfaction that the talks held between M.S. Gorbachev and H. Syrian President al-Asad in April of this year have lent a fresh dynamism to Soviet-Syrian cooperation.

A meeting was held with W. Hayden, Australian minister of foreign affairs and trade. E.A. Shevardnadze called the attention of his interlocutor to the practical steps undertaken by the USSR to implement the approach to the problems of strengthening security and arranging broad international cooperation in the Asian-Pacific region as contained in the interview given by M.S. Gorbachev to the newspaper *Merdeka*. Note was made of the importance of the achievement of the understanding in principle on the "global" elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range and operational-tactical missiles for the formation of a climate of trust in this part of the globe.

The ministers noted the positive nature of the development of bilateral relations and spoke in favor of expanding and deepening political dialogue between the USSR and Australia.

E.A. Shevardnadze met with B. Lenihan, the minister of foreign affairs of Ireland. During their conversation confidence was expressed that the accord reached in principle in Washington on the elimination of two classes of nuclear weapons is creating an opportunity for progress in other directions of disarmament, and for the solution of questions of importance to Europe such as a reduction in conventional arms and armed forces and a ban on chemical weapons.

The two sides said they favor further advances in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Ireland.

Receives Photo Collection

LD251845 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 25 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, today had a meeting with Patricia Richards, representative of Collins Publishers, at the Soviet United Nations mission.

She presented to the Soviet leadership a just published photo album "A Day in the Life of the Soviet Union". It consists of 275 of the best photos by 100 photo journalists from 20 countries of the world who visited the Soviet Union early in May.

On their behalf she expressed warm gratitude to the Soviet people for the warm hospitality and expressed hope that this book will facilitate the expansion and strengthening of understanding between the peoples of different countries of the world, first of all between the USSR and the United States.

Departs After UN Session

LD261316 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 26 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, left New York today.

He had taken part in the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Gerasimov on Peres Meeting

TA270823 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 27 Sep 87 pp 1, 2

["Exclusive" report from New York by Miryam Fuchs]

[Excerpts] Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told *Davar* over the weekend that the Shevardnadze-Peres meeting was "constructive," but still did not achieve a breakthrough. Rather, it was merely the continuation of a dialogue. Not much progress was made with respect to the international conference or the chances for establishing diplomatic ties, Gerasimov said.

Regarding emigration, the spokesman said that the official policy has already changed, so that now people whose requests were denied twice have the right to appeal. He added that there is no chance for direct flights. "Those who wish to fly to Israel can do so, but very often when they get to the transit station in Vienna," he added disparagingly, "they somehow forget their Israeli destination." [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' itinerary in the United States is murderous. After meeting with the foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, Brazil, Denmark, and the Netherlands, Peres met on Tuesday evening with Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski.

In their meeting, the Polish minister emphasized that Poland's relations with Israel do not conflict with its ties with the Arab world. Peres returned in kind by expressing Israel's appreciation for the fact that Poland was the first Eastern bloc country to renew ties with Israel after they were cut following the 6-day War.

After reviewing the Middle East peace process, Peres said that there are grounds for optimism, because peace is inevitable. He added that the economic situation in the region is such that should preclude any further exacerbation of the arms race. The Polish foreign minister suggested that the two countries cooperate in marking the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising next year. [passage omitted]

On Wednesday, after his meeting with the Soviet foreign minister, Peres also met with the foreign ministers of Japan, Finland, and Canada. The issue of anti-semitic publications in the Japanese press was brought up in the meeting with the Japanese foreign minister, who emphasized that both he and Prime Minister Nakasone strongly condemned these publications. Peres requested that Japan consider involvement in the "Marshall plan" for the economic development of the Middle East.

Further Reportage on 42d UNGA Session

PPR, DRA Ministers Comment

LD262001 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 25 Sep 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report from UN headquarters in New York by correspondent V. Lobachenko]

[Text] [Lobachenko] The general discussion continues at the UN headquarters in New York, at the 42d session of the General Assembly. Participants in the session received the speech by Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze with attention and enormous interest.

[Polish Foreign Minister Orzechowski, identified by screen caption] For me personally, it is confirmation of that consistent peace policy of the Soviet Union and of that great program which Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev expounded to the whole world at the beginning of last year.

[Logachenko] How is the Soviet-U.S. agreement in Washington being evaluated within the walls of the United Nations?

[Orzechowski] I have spoken to many of the foreign ministers, those from the West above all, and they all regard it with optimism. This is the first step toward disarmament. It is a great psychological breakthrough, if one may so express it, the barrier that separates us from a nuclear-free world is beginning to crumble.

[Lobachenko] The speech by the Soviet foreign minister contained a broad and comprehensive analysis of the political and socioeconomic situation in the world, said Abdol Wakil, foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Concerning Afghanistan, the Soviet foreign minister expressed the goodwill of the Soviet Union and its desire, together with the representatives of democratic Afghanistan, to find a realistic way out of the situation.

Security Council Considers Gulf

LD251934 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 25 TASS—The United Nations Security Council today held official consultations on the issue of settling the Iran-Iraq armed conflict.

Following the consultations U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar told newsmen he had briefed the council members on the situation regarding a settlement after his talks in New York this week with the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq.

He said in a reply to questions that neither Iran nor Iraq refused to recognize Resolution 598 calling for a ceasefire. The matter at issue was specifications and explanations on the part of both countries, he added.

Perez de Cuellar then said the Security Council members had at their disposal all the elements needed to take a decision. It was now up to the Security Council to decide which further steps should be taken, he continued.

The date for the Security Council meeting will be determined by its president after consultations with council members.

UNGA Results Reported

LD260631 Moscow TASS in English 0620 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 26 TASS — TASS correspondents Sergy Baybakov and Vyacheslav Chernyshov report:

The general political discussion at the 42nd U.N. General Assembly session has ended its first week. The international community is centering its attention on the Soviet concept of international security and durable world peace, which was set forth in the speech by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Eduard Shevardnadze. The vivid, thorough and substantive speech by the head of the Soviet delegation to the session has produced a strong impression on the audience, the TASS correspondents have been told by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Foreign Minister of Bulgaria Petur Mladenov who shared his impressions on the course of the political discussion. The speech expounds the main precepts of the new political thinking which find practical incarnation in the platform of a comprehensive system of peace and security. The pivotal element of the speech is the call for reason and goodwill, common values of the world, freedom real respect for the human being.

The Soviet foreign minister meanwhile tactically and unobtrusively, but extremely convincingly uphold the noble principles and goals of socialism in the world scene which actually coincide with common-to-all-mankind interests of preservation of life on earth and the well-being of the people, stressed Petur Mladenov. [sentence as received] This is a fresh evidence of the policy of the CPSU, of the whole of the socialist community meeting the aspirations of the peoples of the whole world and the historical call of the times.

Speaking on Friday at the plenary meeting of the U.N. General Assembly Romania's Foreign Minister Ioan Totu underlined the need for the early solution of the fundamenal problem of the day—termination of the arms race, and disarmament, above all, nuclear, and also establishment of a comprehensive system of international peace and security. He said Romania welcomed the Soviet-American agreement to scrap medium- and shorter-range missiles and hoped that the agreement would be signed at a summit meeting of the two countries' leaders.

Libya's permanent representative at the United Nations 'Ali al-Turayki has drawn the United nations' attention to the fact that the state terrorism policy, pursued by the United States, imperils the efforts to safeguard peace. The peoples of Grenada, Nicaragua, Libya, the Palestinian people are victims of that policy, he said. Libya is ready to assist solution of the Chad problem and will fully cooperate with the Organization of African Unity in its settlement, said the Libyan delegate.

Security Council Statement

LD260012 Moscow TASS in English 0010 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 26 TASS—Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary general made a statement to the press on Friday at the United Nations headquarters after a meeting with the ministers of foreign affairs of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

The U.N. secretary general said that there had been a very serious discussion among the five foreign ministers, following which they decided to issue the following statement:

"The goal of the permanent members and of the Security Council as a whole, is to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq conflict.

"The permanent members regard implementation of Resolution 598 as the sole basis for the comprehensive, just, honourable and durable settlement of the conflict.

"The permanent members commend the secretary general for his efforts thus far and give full support to his efforts to implement the resolution.

"The permanent members stated their determination to continue to work with each other within the Security Council. They will, therefore, continue to work on the ways and means to secure full and rapid implementation of Resolution 598 and, in this context, on further steps to ensure compliance with that resolution."

Iraq Supports UN Resolution

LD260025 Moscow TASS in English 0022 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 26 TASS—Iraq Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said here that his government acclaimed resolution 598 demanding a ceasefire as the first step to a settlement and was ready for cooperation in its implementation with the U.N. secretary general and the security Council.

Speaking at the general political debate of the 42nd U.N. General Assembly, Tariq 'Aziz called on all interested parties not to review the resolution and not to make any

amendments to it. Iraq hopes that the resolution which was unanimously adopted by all members of the council, will be implemented, he said. In Iraq's opinion, it is a balanced document containing all elements for an all-embracing solution of the Iran-Iraq conflict. Iraq stands out for settling the conflict by political means through the good offices of the United Nations on the basis of its charter and international law, said the minister.

Cerezo, Khamene'i Speak

PM271825 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[Dispatch by special correspondents N. Prozhogin and V. Sukhoy: "Broad Exchange of Opinions at 42d UN General Assembly Session"]

[Text] New York, 23 Sep—The general political debate is continuing at the 42d UN General Assembly Session.

Addresses from Guatemalan President Cerezo Arevalo and Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i were heard at the morning plenary session.

The Guatemalan president's speech was devoted mainly to the problem of a peaceful settlement of the situation in Central America. On 7 August this year, he said, the presidents of five Central American countries managed to overcome their differences and sign an agreement on ways to achieve peace in Central America. A most crucial stage has now arrived—the stage of implementing the agreement reached and turning it into political reality. Much depends on how this process goes. What is being decided is whether or not there will be political stability in the region.

Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i set forth the viewpoint of his country's leadership on the causes, the nature, and the essence of the Iran-Iraq war. He welcomed the UN secretary general's efforts aimed at ending hostilities on the Iran-Iraq front and declared Iran's readiness to heed the will of the international community. But, nonetheless, he confirmed once again that his country cannot agree to Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for an immediate cease-fire on land, at sea, and in the air. 'Ali Khamene'i pointed out that Iran continues to insist that the resolution clearly name the aggressor country (he meant Iraq) and contain a point on a "return to internationally recognized borders."

The Iranian president resolutely condemned the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region and called the latest actions of U.S. warships "horrifying." At that moment the U.S. delegation ostentatiously left the UN General Assembly auditorium.

Danish Foreign Minister U. Ellemann-Jensen spoke during the general political debate on behalf of the EEC countries. He pointed to the exceptional importance of continuing the process of strengthening international cooperation on problems of security in Europe and voiced the hope that measures of military confidence among the European states will very soon be strengthened. The speaker supported the idea of convening an international conference on problems of settling the Near East conflict and advocated respect for the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination. The Danish foreign minister set out in detail the viewpoint of the 12 EEC countries on other important problems of the present day.

The session's seventh sitting was held in the afternoon. It was addressed by the foreign ministers of Cuba, Mexico, Zaire, Bangladesh, Canada, Congo, and Norway.

Iran's Velayati Sends Letter

LD251842 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 25 TASS—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati sent a letter to the United Nations secretary general in connection with the assault of a U.S. helicopter on the Iranian vessel *Iran Ajr* on September 21 when the vessel was in the international waters of the Persian Gulf. Iran qualifies this assault as an unjustifiable aggression as a result of which several persons were killed, while other members of the vessel's crew were taken hostages.

The letter published today says that "the policy of stirring up conflict in the Persian Gulf which has been constantly conducted and encouraged by the United States, alongside current U.S. aggression, resulted in an unprecedentedly critical and explosive situation in the region." In view of the dangerous circumstances, Velayati called the attention of the United Nations secretary general and of the Security Council to the fact that "Iran has no choice but to consider the question of taking appropriate effective measures in reply." He said that the entire responsibility for the developing situation and consequences stemming from this rests on the U.S. Government.

The Security Council's Resolution 598 "was grossly violated, and the United States actions defy peace and security in the region and decisions of the Security Council," the letter says. Iran is of the opinion that the unprovoked assault on the Iranian vessel was another serious attempt to thwart any constructive measures aimed at achieving a fair and durable peace, including measures recently taken by the United Nations secretary general. Iran's foreign minister urged the United Nations Security Council to "unambiguously and resolutely condemn that U.S. act of aggression and take every necessary measure to prevent such criminal acts."

Kohl Invitation Violates Berlin Agreement

LD251306 Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] West Berlin September 25 TASS—The International Democratic Union, grouping conservative parties from 22 capitalist nations, opened a conference here today.

On the agenda of the conference attended by the leaders of conservative parties is discussion of East-West relations and disarmament issues, above all in connection

with the recent Soviet-American agreement in principle to scrap medium- and shorter-range missiles, economic problems and the situation in Latin America.

The conference drew eight heads of government, including of Britain, France, West Germany and Turkey.

Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is chairman of the West German Christian Democratic Union, is the inviting party.

This is another violation of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin, under which the city is not considered to be a part of the Federal Republic.

Zhukov Sees Opportunity for Arms Accords

PM201743 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 87 First Edition p 4

[Yuriy Zhukov article under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion: "Guarantee of Security—Real and Imaginary": boldface as published]

[Text] One of the main issues of world politics at the end of the 20th century—reflections on which were contained in M.S. Gorbachev's article in *Pravda* now being extensively discussed everywhere—is the problem of guaranteeing a secure world. The very keen interest in this problem on the part of the broadest public circles is even greater because now, in the course of the Soviet-U.S. talks on eliminating medium-range nuclear missiles and operational-tactical nuclear missiles, the real opportunity to begin moving without delay toward a nuclear-free world is more discernible than ever before.

This is an encouraging sign that the new political thinking dictated by the realities of the end of the 20th century— slower than we would have liked, but more tangible the further we go—is exerting its influence upon world development. Although many influential forces in the West continue to assert the impossibility of living without nuclear weapons inasmuch as they represent—they assure us—the guarantee of international security, people everywhere are declaring loudly and with increasing conviction: **This is no guarantee but, on the contrary, the most terrible threat to security.**

It is no coincidence that the chief editor of the U.S. quarterly *Foreign Policy*, Charles William Maynes, states in the just published fall issue of his journal: "The new Soviet leader has already had a striking impact on the West. More and more polls of the West European public indicate that Gorbachev has radically altered the peoples' image of Soviet diplomacy. In the United States suspicion of the Soviet Union has put down much deeper roots than it has in other major Western countries; but even here Gorbachev has succeeded in achieving a great deal."

Next, emphasizing that the negative attitude toward Soviet peace initiatives on the part of the U.S. Government and the governments of the NATO countries is provoking the growing resentment of their people, this analyst bluntly declares: "Western leaders must face up to the growing threat of the loss of support from their own citizens if they are unable to be as bold as the Russians... It is now time to display boldness: boldness of thought, indisputably—but maybe sometimes boldness of action also."

Gone forever, it appears, are the times when leading figures of the U.S. Administration could allow themselves publicly to argue that there are things more important than peace, and to try to reassure their compatriots with statements to the effect that in the event of a nuclear war some part of the U.S. population would survive, while communism, however, would be reduced to ashes. Recently, more cunning arguments have been chosen: They assure people that nuclear weapons are not a military but a political means of struggle which will never be put into action—their presence, they say, enables a world war to be avoided.

But people are not blind and not deaf. When, on the first day of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Washington, Americans heard the statement by U.S. General J. Galvin, commander of NATO forces in Europe, that the conclusion of an agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles would mean an "increased threat (!) for the NATO countries," and read in the *Los Angeles Times* an article by Defense Secretary C. Weinberger couched in the same spirit, and then acquainted themselves—albeit not in full, but at least with the main points of—M.S. Gorbachev's article, then it was not difficult for them to draw the conclusion as to where lay the guarantee of peace and where the threat to peace.

The further we progress, the greater the number of people who realize there that, following the creation of nuclear weapons, there has not been a world war not thanks to the presence of this weapon of mass destruction but despite its existence. All the more attractive in their eyes are the genuine guarantees of peace which an all-embracing system of international security is capable of offering mankind, a system of international security which embraces the military, political, economic, and humanitarian aspects of the relations between states and peoples.

An important element of this system which guarantees a lasting peace is the Soviet Union's plan for the complete, phased elimination of nuclear weapons proposed 15 January 1986. It is the opinion of the Soviet side that a treaty on the first stage—the elimination of two classes of these weapons (medium-range and operational-tactical missiles)—could be drafted before the end of this year. Agreement on the next stage— a 50-percent cut in strategic offensive (intercontinental) armaments— given the strict observance of the ABM Treaty, could be reached in the first half of next year.

The considerations on this score set out in M.S. Gorbachev's article have been greeted with great interest in Washington and in other NATO capitals. What is the

next move? Will the new thinking prevail there, too, at last? Will the West display the requisite boldness of thought, "and maybe boldness of action also," as exhorted by the editor of *Foreign Policy*, taking into consideration U.S. public opinion and that of its allies? Or will the dark forces over there whose sole interest is profit gain the upper hand once more?

I believe that we will obtain the answers to these questions in the very near future.

Petrosyants Addresses IAEA Session

LD221956 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Vienna September 22 TASS—Head of the Soviet delegation, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilisation of Atomic Energy Andranik Petrosyants, spoke at the 31st session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) here.

He said that thirty years that had passed since the coming into effect of the IAEA statute showed that over those years the agency had become a recognized center for jointly tackling scientific and technical programs of the peaceful uses of atomic energy and rendering assistance to developing countries in that area. Questions of nuclear non-proliferation had by right assumed the cardinal position in that international organization. The task of the consolidation of the international non-proliferation regime was now more acute than ever and directly connected with the maintenance of peace and security and the lessening of the threat of nuclear war.

The agency's practical activity in the years of its existence clearly demonstrated to the international community the advantages of peaceful development of science and technology as the alternative to their military use. It clearly indicated the only reasonable way for using atomic energy. It should be noted that the international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy would undoubtedly be given a strong impetus if the political climate in the world improved and progress was reached in ensuring universal security.

Being a recognized international body for concerted efforts of states in the area of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, IAEA could not keep apart from the mainstreams of world politics. The agency's vigorous participation in the efforts to prevent the emergence of new nuclear states was one of the most important trends in the struggle against the menace of nuclear war, for the consolidation of peace and international security, for curbing the nuclear arms race, Andranik Petrosyants said.

The Soviet Union rendered and would continue rendering all-round support to IAEA in discharging its functions to ensure non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, specifically, in promoting the development of the agency's safeguards.

Further Reportage

PM280905 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Reliable Instrument of Cooperation"]

[Text] Vienna, 24 Sep—Soviet delegation head A.M. Petrosyants, chairman of the State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, addressed the 31st IAEA General Conference which is being held here.

The 30 years that have passed since the day when the IAEA Charter came into force, he said, testify that the agency has become a universally recognized center for the joint solution of scientific and technical problems involving the application of nuclear power for peaceful purposes and the provision of assistance to developing countries in this sphere. Questions of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons have correctly occupied a key position in this international organization.

The head of the Soviet delegation spoke of the state and development prospects of power engineering in the Soviet Union. Power engineering, he noted, is a leading and fast developing sector of the USSR national economy. In the coming decades power generation in the USSR will be based mainly on organic and nuclear fuel and water power, since other energy sources of comparable potential are hitherto nonexistent.

The Chernobyl AES accident in April 1986 caused great damage to our country. Today, 18 months later, I would like to inform the conference that the No 1 and No 2 power units at the AES, with a capacity of 1 million kilowatts each, are operating at their planned capacity. The No 3 power unit is being prepared for startup, while the No 4 power unit, which was destroyed as a result of the accident, is fully clad in concrete covering. On behalf of the Soviet people, I would like to express again from this high rostrum thanks to the organizations, firms, and governments of the countries which helped us to eliminate the accident.

The critical analysis of nuclear power engineering in the wake of the Chernobyl AES accident has not resulted in any change of our positions regarding the further development of nuclear power engineering in the USSR. By 1990 the contribution made by nuclear power engineering to satisfying the national economy's electricity needs will reach approximately 20 percent, and by the year 2000 it will have reached magnitudes comparable with the contribution made by the main types of organic fuel.

The Soviet delegation is confident the IAEA will remain a reliable instrument in developing international cooperation in utilizing nuclear power for peaceful purposes in conditions of consistently ensuring the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Meeting Ends 18 Sep

LD182334 Moscow TASS in English 2226 GMT 18 Sep 87

[Text] Vienna September 18 TASS—The session of the Board of Governors, the guiding body of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), drew to close in the Austrian capital today.

It discussed a wide range of problems, including those related to the implementation of the Soviet Union's proposal of 1986 for the establishment of an international regime for a safe development of atomic energy.

The session also considered ways for averting nuclear terrorism and armed attacks on nuclear installations.

The board charted specific measures to ensure further development of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The board instructed the IAEA director-general to work out and apply safeguards agreements in connection with the treaty on a nuclear weapon-free zone in the southern Pacific. The Soviet delegation urged Western powers to treat the nuclear-free status of that region with due responsibility.

The session considered preparations for the 31st session of the IAEA general conference to begin in Vienna Monday, September 21. The conference will discuss an annual report on the agency's work in 1986, measures to promote international cooperation in nuclear and radiation safety, financial and other important matters pertaining to the IAEA'S activity.

The board of governors also examined measures designed to celebrate later this year the 30th anniversary of the agency's founding.

Seventh Round of Edinburgh Talks Begins

LD281225 Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] MOSCOW September 28 TASS—Mutual dependence and world-wide security in the nuclear age—new thinking—is the key topic of discussions opened in Moscow today within framework of the regular, seventh, round of the Edinburgh Talks.

Prominent politicians, experts in the military field, scientists, representatives of Soviet and British trade unions will discuss concrete measures to build up trust and scale down confrontation both in Europe and all over the world.

Solovyev Addresses Friendship Societies

PM181321 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Strengthening Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] Leningrad, 17 Sep—Friends of the Soviet Union from almost 100 countries have gathered in Leningrad for the International Meeting of representatives of foreign societies for friendship with the USSR and the Soviet public which opened today on the theme of the 70th anniversary of Great October. Leningrad's guests include prominent politicians and public figures, representatives of various parties, and activists of national antiwar movements and public organizations. The participants also include leaders of republic societies and branches of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries from cities in the RSFSR.

The audience at the plenary session was addressed by Y. F. Solov'yev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningrad party obkom. The Great October Revolution, he said, paved mankind's way toward socialism—a fundamentally new and just social system. Under the leadership of Lenin's party, the people resolutely took political power into their own hands and began building the foundations of the new society. The first steps on this difficult and unparalleled path were taken in the city on the Neva. This was where the shots of the "Avrora" rang out, proclaiming to the whole world the creation of a workers and peasants state.

In the Smolnyy Institute, the second All-Russian Congress of Soviets of Workers and Soldiers Deputies passed the first historic decrees of Soviet power. The Decree on Peace—a most important foreign policy document—proclaimed the new principles of international relations. They form the basis of the policy of peace and peaceful cooperation, recognition of the full equality of all the peoples, respect for their national state independence, and and noninterference in other countries' internal affairs.

Seventy years have passed since then. Throughout those 70 years our party and government have been consistently and persistently pursuing a Leninist foreign policy course. The Soviet Union's constructive initiatives and proposals are aimed at improving the international situation, reducing and completely eliminating the arsenals of lethal weapons, averting the thermonuclear threat, and preventing the transfer of the arms race to space.

Energetic and resolute actions in support of peace are more necessary now than ever before. The work which the friendship society does to strengthen cooperation and mutual understanding among the peoples is especially important and useful. Thanks to this activity more and more people are becoming conscious of and appreciating their responsibility for the world's future. This is exceptionally important for achieving stability in international affairs and ensuring collective security.

In Leningrad and its oblast, just as throughout the country, the speaker stressed, restructuring is being carried out—work which is revolutionary by its nature. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January and June plenums gave a powerful new impetus to the process of renewal and opened the way wide to democratic transformations and economic modernization. In carrying out what has been planned, the working people of the city and oblast are

confidently fulfilling the plan targets and socialist pledges and preparing to greet the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution with labor achievements.

The audience applauded the greetings message from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the participants in the meeting, which was read out by Y. F. Solov'yev. [passage omitted]

New Ambassadors to Malta, Burkina Faso Named

PM181133 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 87 Second Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "Chronicle"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Vladimir Yakovlevich Plechko USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Malta.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Viktor Nikolayevich Smirnov from his duties as USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Malta on his retirement.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Yevgeniy Nikolayevich Korendyasov USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Burkina Faso.

United States & Canada

'Lies and Deceit' Called U.S. 'State Policy'

LD251256 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1130 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Washington, 25 Sep (TASS)—In his message to Congress, President Reagan tried to justify his administration's policy of building up armed forces in the Persian Gulf. If one is to believe the head of the White House, the U.S. actions are dictated by a striving for "the achievement of peace and stability in the region". These are words, but what has been happening in fact?

In fact, according to the U.S. CBS television network, Washington's machinations with attempts to bribe certain military circles in Iran began back in 1981. Even though the U.S. President gave the assurance that "the weapons sold to Iran can be easily fitted into one cargo plane", the facts show that up to 20 planes were required to dispatch them.

According to press reports, well-informed sources claim that the total supplies provided were worth approximately $1.3 billion and not $22-40 million, as spokesmen for the administration had claimed in their striving to appease the passions which were running high around "Irangate", the biggest political scandal during the term of the present administration. Here was evidence that high-ranking U.S. representatives are not only prepared to lie to Congress and to their people, but have also elevated deceit and lies to the rank of state policy.

Now that the passions have died down somewhat, the administration has taken heart and planned a new foreign policy adventure in one of the planet's "hot spots." It is pursuing a course which is causing alarm on Capitol Hill and profound concern among the U.S. public. The White House's policy in the Persian Gulf, as the U.S. press acknowledges, is leading to increased tension and a further inflammation of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The ways and means of achieving its purposes remain as before. Lies and deceit have not been removed from the arsenal. In his latest message to Congress, the head of the White House let loose impermissibly crude attacks on the Soviet Union, falsely accusing it of "delaying tactics" in fulfilling Resolution 598 of the UN Security Council, and also of "seeking opportunities for expanding its influence to the detriment of peace in the region." Such utterances can only be described as an attempt to shift the blame for the escalation of tension in the Persian Gulf from the guilty to the innocent.

Thursday the U.S. State Department expressed reservations over the Soviet Union's proposal that the safety of shipping in the Persian Gulf should be ensured by the entire international community, on whose behalf the United Nation acts. "The idea of creating a United Nations force," claimed State Department spokesman Phyllis Oakley, "will cause many practical problems." "We are well aware that the United Nations has great experience in cease-fire supervision and in the sphere of setting up missions to supervise the carrying out of various agreements," she said, "but this will be something new that will be complex to work out".

So who, then, is hindering the implementation of Resolution 598, and who is hampering a broadening and stepping up of the role of the United Nations in the search for a solution to the protracted bloody conflict? Who, in fact, is fanning the Iran-Iraq war in an attempt to use it for selfish ends? Who is showing a stubborn striving to keep in the Persian Gulf for as long as possible a powerful naval group, whose presence alone is enabling Washington to put pressure on the countries of the region?

Let's turn to the facts. A USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman described reports claiming that talks are underway between the Soviet Union and Iran on the sale to Iran of a large consignment of weapons, which have appeared in the press of certain Persian Gulf countries in the past few days, as "unfounded fabrications". At a meeting with journalists it was stressed that the Soviet Union does not sell and does not supply any weapons or military equipment to Iran. The Soviet Union, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stated, does not practice double diplomacy and we have no reasons to change our attitude to the Iran-Iraq war.

The United States from the very start and at all stages of the conflict has played the unsightly role of instigator, adding fuel to the fire with its own hands and by means of dishonorable [nechistyye] mediators. In spite of the "Irangate" exposures, official Washington is continuing to supply weapons to Iran, using for these purposes, in particular, its strategic partner Israel. By the admission of Israeli officials, one of the four Israelis involved in the sale of weapons to Iran by the United States, one Kimhi [name as received], gave assistance in concluding this deal at the request of the United States. As *The Times* of London writes, while the United States is advocating an embargo on the supply of weapons to Tehran, in fact military technology is continuing to reach Iran.

U.S. Showing 'Negative Attitude' in Gulf

LD251301 Moscow TASS in English 1249 GMT 25 Sep 87

["Gulf—Washington Unwilling To Cooperate With UN"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—By a TASS diplomatic correspondent:

The U.S. Department of State has rejected the Soviet idea of collective international effort to secure safety of shipping in the Persian Gulf and the transfer, if need be, of sufficient corresponding forces to the United Nations for that purpose.

The United States has earlier demonstrated a similarly negative attitude to the Soviet proposal for collective measures under the U.N. auspices to settle the problem of demining.

The proposal envisaged operations on clearing the Persian Gulf by an international squadron of mine-sweepers which would remain in the region for a specific agreed period, in combination with the withdrawal of the navies of countries other than those belonging to the Gulf.

The U.S. negative stand towards international efforts to defuse tensions in the Persian Gulf is counterproductive and runs against Washington's declarations of its readiness for active steps to establish peace in the region.

It is believed in the Soviet diplomatic circles in Moscow that Washington would like to limit the crisis-management effort in the Persian Gulf to the U.S.-led NATO countries in order to gain an opportunity to manipulate developments in the region exclusively in its own interests.

The heightening of tension in the Gulf and its dangerous unpredictability demanded that the international community adopt exclusively responsible actions in full accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Under these conditions, it is important not to lose unity at the U.N. Security Council. Otherwise, the situation in the region might break out of control and bring about grave consequences not only for Persian Gulf states but also for the cause of peace on the whole.

Safety of navigation in the Persian Gulf and the restoration of military-political stability in that region could only be ensured by the entire international community through peaceful efforts.

Pentagon's 'Iran Ajr' Story Lacks Proof

LD262051 Moscow TASS in English 2046 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—By TASS commentator Maxim Knyazkov:

The U.S. Defence Department has found itself in a quite embarrassing position illustrating the methods used by Washington to build up tensions and engineer armed provocations in various parts of the world.

As has already been reported, last Tuesday Navy helicopters, which took off from board the U.S. frigate *Jarret* currently on combat duty in the Persian Gulf strafed and set on fire the Iranian ship *Iran Ajr*, killing several of its crew members and capturing the others. Quite recently reports have come that the *Iran Ajr* was blown up and sunken on direct instructions of U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger who arrived in the Gulf area.

It was claimed that the American servicemen allegedly caught the Iranians in the act of laying mines in the waters of the Persian Gulf, and therefore the actions of the "former are completely justified." It was promised that Washington would present to the international community within the next few days "irrefutable proofs" of the involvement of the crew of *Iran Ajr* in laying mines.

Then the Pentagon found itself in an embarrassing position. As the newspaper *Washington Post* said, the promised "proofs" will not be presented, as the videofilm made by the U.S. intelligence service of the Iranians placing mines in the Gulf, proved to be absolutely blank after it was developed.

We are extremely disappointed by the fact that nothing can be seen on film, an unnamed Pentagon official complained in an interview with a correspondent of *The Washington Post* newspaper.

But what if there was nothing to see on film and that is the reason of an "unfortunate technical blunder"? Yet, the answer to that, will, to all appearances, be buried forever in the headquarters of the U.S. war department and secret services. And hardly any of representatives of the U.S. establishment would seek the truth. Since the USA has achieved its aim—instigated a sharpening of the situation in the Persian Gulf, which gives the USA and the other NATO member countries a pretext for sending to the Gulf area an even larger naval armada and cobble together there a powerful strike force.

Well, such things do happen, Marlin Fitzwater, an official spokesman for the White House answered, when asked a question about the "embarrassing situation" with the film.

Indeed, "such things" do happen in Washington quite often. In 1986, for example, the Reagan administration was trying to assure the whole world that it allegedly had "irrifutable proofs" of Libya's involvement in the explosion in a West Berlin discoteque. That served as a pretext for the aggression against that country, which resulted in heavy losses of human life. Yet then the American press published report to the effect that the "proofs" of the White House are not that "irrefutable". Yet by that time lies had already done their dark job.

It is apt to ask in that connection, has the U.S. Administration already used the tried method once again?

Reports, Comments on Weinberger's Gulf Trip

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Preview

PM280907 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Sep 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading "Dangerous Situation"]

[Text] Washington, 24 Sep—U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger left on a tour of the Persian Gulf Wednesday. During his 5-day trip the Pentagon leader will inspect the major U.S. naval grouping deployed in the area, visit Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, and make a short stop in Egypt. A Defense Department spokesman stated that during his visit Weinberger intends to discuss questions linked with the operation being conducted by U.S. warships to escort tankers in the Persian Gulf and the question of arms shipments.

On the eve of his trip Weinberger gave an interview to NBC TV in which, answering a question about future U.S. actions in the Gulf, he said: "We will continue to do what we have been doing—accompanying ships flying the U.S. flag through international waters."

At the same time there is a growing realization in the country of the danger of the administration's policy in the Persian Gulf. An opinion poll conducted by CBS TV and *The New York Times* has shown that most Americans think that the U.S. military presence in the Gulf will lead to war.

Remarks on Iranian Vessel

LD260019 Moscow TASS in English 0015 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 25 TASS—U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said today that the Iranian vessel seized by the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf last Monday would be destroyed. He told this to journalists aboard a U.S. missile frigate forming the fleet of U.S. warships massed in the Persian Gulf. The AP agency reports that Weinberger arrived at the frigate hours after coming to the region for a five-day visit.

According to the Pentagon's allegations, the Iranian ship attacked by U.S. naval helicopters was laying mines in Persian Gulf waters. Iran rejected these accusations. In Weinberger's words, the United States would destroy any other ship laying mines.

The head of the Pentagon also said that the USA was conducting very encouraging consultations with the FRG and Japan about their contribution to the West's actions in the Persian Gulf. He refused to reveal particulars of these consultations.

Urges Continued Presence

LD280914 Moscow TASS in English 0903 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 28 TASS—U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has urged continued and extensive American military presence in the Persian Gulf where there currently are some 30 U.S. warships and thousands of Marines.

He said in an interview with ABC Television that the United States had been, and should continue, doing what he called the natural things for protecting freedom of shipping.

The Pentagon chief had sharp words for Democratic members of Congress pressing for a special amendment to a defense authorization bill, which would limit U.S. naval operations to escort tankers in the Gulf.

Those plans prompted strong protests from the Pentagon and Ronald Reagan who threatened vetoing any bill with such an amendment.

Talks Pressure Arabs

LD280919 Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo September 28 TASS—Today U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger who had toured several Mid-Eastern countries, arrived in Egypt. The Pentagon's head will meet Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and will hold talks with Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defence and military production.

Weinberger had already inspected the U.S. naval flotilla in the Persian Gulf and visited several countries of the Arabian peninsula. Local observers note that this visit is taking place against the background of tension in the Persian Gulf growing again as a result of U.S. aggressive actions. Opinion is voiced in this connection that Weinberger's visit is aimed at putting pressure on Arab countries and making them join Washington's adventurist course in this explosive area.

Reagan Opposes Cuts in Military Spending

LD271126 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1045 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Washington, 27 Sep (TASS)—In his latest Saturday radio address to the nation, President Reagan said that the United States is close to reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union on reducing nuclear weapons. While declaring that he is "full of determination not to permit any threat to the arms reduction process," the President opposed a cut in expenditures for military purposes. Reagan threatened that he would respond to defense expenditure cuts by reducing allocations for social needs. "If Congress insists on lowering defense expenditure, I will certainly demand a reduction in spending on domestic programs," he said.

The declaration by the head of the administration concerns a law passed by the U.S. Congress on raising the ceiling of the deficit up to $2.8 trillion. Without this law, the United States is unable to finance the working of the federal government. When the Reagan administration took office, the U.S. deficit was less than a trillion dollars. Since then, it has constantly grown at a record rate in connection with the country's enormous federal budget deficits, caused mainly by the astronomical allocations for military purposes.

While agreeing to sign the law on the latest rise regarding the ceiling on the deficit, Reagan nevertheless expressed dissatisfaction with the amendment in the text, according to which, if the President and Congress cannot agree on reducing the size of the federal budget deficit, a mechanism for "automatically" reducing its articles will come into force, including those in the sphere of military allocations.

Bush To Explain U.S. Stands on Europe Trip

LD251307 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 25 TASS—U.S. Vice-President George Bush has set out on Thursday for a nine-day European tour, which will take him to Italy, Poland, FRG, France, Britain and Belgium.

At a briefing, held the day before the tour, the vice-president's official representative said that George Bush would have negotiations with West European heads of government, other officials, meet EEC leaders.

President Reagan asked George Bush to go to Europe for consultations with allies and elucidation of the U.S. position at the negotiations with the Soviet Union on elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles, said the vice-president's representative.

The vice-president will assure the allies of the U.S. loyalty to the Atlantic alliance, said the vice-president's official representative. George Bush will also discuss the situation in the Persian Gulf where the United States and its NATO allies amassed a considerable naval force, the situation in Central America, questions of "struggle against terrorism".

Arrives in Italy

LD251921 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 25 Sep 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Dmitriy Biryukov]

[Text] This short video report that we have received from Rome tells of the arrival in Italy of U.S. Vice President Bush. It is the first stop on his European trip during which he intends to seek support for U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf and to explain the U.S. position on disarmament issues to the U.S. allies.

Besides Italy, the FRG, France, Britain and Belgium he intends also to visit Poland. Bush will be flying to Warsaw tomorrow morning.

On the eve of his departure from Washington an official spokesman for the vice president told journalists that President Reagan asked Bush to go to Europe to assure the allies of the U.S. adherence to the Atlantic alliance. Bush will be meeting the heads of government of Western European countries, other officials and leaders of the EEC.

The U.S. press has been paying particular attention to Bush's visit to the Polish People's Republic. It has been announced that in Warsaw there will be talks with Wojciech Jaruzelski and other Polish leaders. The interest of the press is explained by the fact that Bush is the highest-ranking official of the Reagan administration to ever visit Poland. It is fitting to recall that the United States has still not fully lifted its unfounded economic sanctions against Poland, introduced in response to the Polish Government's measures to normalize the situation in the country after the events in the years 1980 and 1981.

Many observers point out that on the one hand Bush has set off for Europe on a diplomatic mission and on the other he intends to make use of his 9-day trip for electoral purposes. On his return from Europe Bush is intending to officially announce his nomination as a Republican Party candidate for the presidency.

News Conference in Rome

LD260007 Moscow TASS in English 0005 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Rome September 25 TASS—An agreement between the USSR and the USA on eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles has not been signed as yet but the USA looks with great hope at what can be done in this sphere, U.S. Vice President George Bush told journalists here. Today he conducted the first round of talks with Giovanni Goria, chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers.

In turn, the head of the Italian Government pointed out that the relations between the USSR and the USA, judging by the information presented by the U.S. Vice President, were developing in a favorable climate. This generates hopes for concluding a treaty on Euromissiles and with respect to other talks on arms reduction, he said.

During the negotiations the sides centred on questions pertaining to the situation in the Persian Gulf. Bush approved Italy's decision to dispatch its warships there. He said that now Italy and the USA had as good relations as never before.

Asked about an establishment of multinational U.N. forces in the Persian Gulf, the chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers said that if the U.N. proposes that countries which are able to do so, should ensure freedom of navigation in some part of the Gulf or other, he believes this would be a very positive fact. Goria reminded journalists of the fact that Italy had favoured earlier the initiative in the same direction.

Bush's Vote Decides SDI Funding Issue

PM271831 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "Vice President Defends 'Star Wars'"]

[Text] Washington, 23 Sep—By a miracle the Reagan administration today managed to avoid what all commentators were calling an "inevitable major defeat" on the question of funding the "Star Wars" program. This "miracle" was the decisive vote of U.S. Vice President G. Bush, who, under the Constitution, is Senate president and thus has the right to participate in voting.

Sensing the weakness of its positions, the White House dispatched Bush to Capitol Hill on the specific mission of defending the militarists' pet program. At first the senators' votes were equally divided—50-50—when deciding the question of whether to cut by a further $800 million the earlier approved sum of $4.5 billion for research in the sphere of creating [sozdaniye] space strike weapons. Bush had the decisive word, making the tally 51-50 in favor of the supporters of the militarization of space.

Although the approved size of the appropriations is a compromise—the White House originally asked for 5.7 billion dollars—the administration hardly conceals its

satisfaction at the outcome of the squabble. Here it is not so much a matter of money as the fact that through very powerful lobbying efforts it has succeeded in frustrating the creation of a bipartisan bloc of opponents of the space adventure.

Thus, the Senate of the U.S. Congress has now officially declared its support for accelerating efforts to realize SDI. The funds it has approved will go to finance the long list of "guidelines" which Pentagon chief Weinberger signed on the day the Soviet-U.S. high-level talks ended. They provide for the acceleration of tests and experiments with space interceptors of missiles, a ground-based missile interception system, a detection system, and also a battle-management command and control system. According to newspaper reports, the Pentagon decision was unanimously described as a "major step in the development [razrabotki] of SDI."

In a political sense, the Senate's split into two opposing camps attests to the lack of a firm opinion among the legislators with regard to the pros and cons of putting weapons into space. However, as a large group of legislators declared in a clear and well reasoned manner, the SDI program long ago transcended ad hoc partisan interests and became a national problem. Sucking billions of dollars from the budget, it has become, as it were, a litmus test of the nation's common sense—do Americans prefer to place nuclear weapons over their heads rather than eliminate them? The consequences of such an action can hardly even be imagined.

At the same time, the results of today's vote are regarded as a signal to attack by the faction of right-wing legislators, who now intend to fight the agreements that still exist in the arms control sphere. As *The Washington Times*, a newspaper close to the administration writes, "conservatives in the Senate are planning to introduce a bill urging President Reagan to pull out of the 1972 ABM Treaty if he discovers that the treaty has jeopardized U.S. security." In light of the administration's continuing attempts to revise this very important agreement, there can hardly be any doubt that such a "discovery" will not be long in coming.

In short, the squabble in the Senate has brought to light one indisputable fact: There is disorder and vacillation among both Democrats and Republicans with regard to fundamental questions of the peace and security of their own country. This is regrettable, for the inability to rise to the level of the demands of the times is simply inexcusable right now, when a real chance has emerged to reach a historic agreement.

U.S. Resumes 'Fuss' Over Moscow Embassy

LD251651 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Andrey Ptashnikov commentary]

[Text] According to reports from foreign information agencies, the United States is making another fuss about the new U.S. Embassy building in Moscow. Andrey Ptashnikov is at the microphone:

Of late, this fuss has not died down. It just simmers down from time to time to boil up with considerably more force. At the moment it is evidently boiling up again. The U.S. press, radio, and television, as well as some high-ranking representatives of the administration, have again been howling—excuse me for using such a rude word, but that is the only way to describe it—about the new U.S. Embassy building in Moscow which is, they say, literally crammed full of listening devices, that practically the entire framework of the building represents a single device allowing U.S. diplomats to be kept under observation round the clock and all their conversations to be heard. The device is, moreover, invisible and intangible.

There is no doubt about it; in the United States they think highly of the possibilities offered by our equipment. Things have got to such a point that there has even been some talk about demolishing the five upper stories of the eight-story building and rebuilding them. In any event, the fact that such a proposal exists and is being examined was confirmed a few days ago by Marlin Fitzwater, an official White House spokesman.

Insinuations are being made that the new U.S. Embassy has been built in a very inconvenient spot in Moscow, in a low site, almost in a bog. Yet the new building comes right up to the old one, which the United States has had as its Embassy for many years now. There were never any complaints on that score before. In this same district, as you know, there is the CEMA building and also the RSFSR Council of Ministers building. Not far away is the International Trade Center and some of the central hotels. They do not seem to mind. They are not aware of any bog there. But the U.S. diplomats have managed to get this idea from somewhere or other.

Let's go back to the listening devices which were the main spark in this furor. I will remind you that the construction of the new U.S. Embassy building was carried out with the participation and constant observation of U.S. experts. What is more, the facing bricks and many other building materials were brought from the United States. Let us suppose for a second that the resourceful agents of the KGB managed to install a microphone in every single brick. There can be no doubt the respective U.S. services would detect them very rapidly with the very latest equipment they have at their disposal.

Let us recall a similar situation at the USSR Embassy in Washington. Incidentally, as you can see, we also have a fairly high opinion of the capability of U.S. technical equipment. But that did not occur. The United States does not have a single piece of evidence, either material or even circumstantial, in support of its argument. But if there were even the slightest proof, you can imagine what an incredible sensation it would cause; there would be no comparison with the present fuss. The United States is not lacking in the skill of conducting various types of propaganda campaigns.

In conclusion, it is necessary to note the following as well. I have already told you that the the fuss being made by the United States simmers down and then boils up again. It is not hard to notice that the fuss always intensifies at the time of some kind of important Soviet-U.S. event. As soon as positive shifts in the relations between the two countries were noted after the summit meeting in Reykavik the fuss started again. The same thing happened on the threshold of the visit to the USSR by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz a few months ago. Now the same thing is happening when an accord in principle has been attained in Washington on the elimination of two types of nuclear missiles. Shultz is again preparing to visit our country and a new summit meeting is planned. This testifies to the fact that in the United States, just as before, there are influential forces which have no desire to permit any kind of improvement in relations between the USSR and the United States, forces that are prepared to do anything to achieve this, even to stoop to the basest kind of lies and provocation.

China

Foreign Ministers' 'Friendly Talks' Noted

OW250009 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 22 Sep 87

[By station commentator (Amelieyandze)]

[Text] It was reported that the Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers held friendly talks in New York. Comrades Shevardnadze and Wu Xueqian exchanged views on the situation of socialist construction in the two countries and discussed a series of important international issues. They expressed the belief that more frequent mutual exchanges in various fields will play a positive role in promoting mutual understanding and promptly achieving the complete normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and China in the future.

In this connection, station commentator (Amelieyandze) writes:

Soviet and Chinese people are all glad from the bottom of their hearts at the prospect of achieving mutual understanding in the relations and new friendship between the two countries. The strengthening of contacts between the Soviet Union and China, including contacts at a high political level, is a very helpful thing.

In the friendly talks between the Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers, they touched upon a wide range of issues. I am very impressed by their talks. Please note their achievements for yourselves.

They talked about the Soviet Union's reform, China's socialist modernization and China's preparations for the convocation of the 13th CPC National Congress. In their discussion of international issues, Shevardnadze urged Comrade Wu Xueqian to give attention to Gorbachev's article "Reality and Guarantees for a Secure World." *Pravda* published this article by Comrade Gorbachev on 17 September. People throughout the world are convinced that this is an important document of new political thinking.

The Soviet people are quite satisfied that, as mentioned by the Chinese foreign minister, the Chinese side is seriously studying the Soviet Union's new thinking and proposal for establishing a universal international security system.

The Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers also exchanged opinions on the question of disarmament. This is also very important, particularly because they did so before the general political debate at the UN General Assembly and after the agreement in principle reached between the Soviet Union and the United States on eliminating medium- and short-range missiles.

Wu Xueqian said that China held that the talks between the Soviet Union and the United States are of great significance and welcomed the agreement in principle between the two countries.

Mutual understanding is a reliable way to the road of coordinated action in strengthening international security. It can be expected that at the general political debate in the General Assembly people can find many views in common in the Soviet and Chinese stands on the most important issue of this era.

U.S. Pursuit of 'Two Chinas' Policy Cited

OW260116 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Ivanov commentary]

[Text] In his address to the 42nd UN General Assembly in New York, U.S. President Reagan mentioned Taiwan. Of course he was not discussing how to return Taiwan to China as soon as possible. The U.S. President highly praised Taiwan's economic situation and mentioned Taiwan together with South Korea and Japan. Ivanov, an observer of this station, has the following comments on the event:

A reporter for the U.S. Armed Forces Radio interviewed the deputy head of the Chinese delegation to the UN General Assembly session and asked him to comment on this part of Reagan's speech. According to a U.S. Armed Forces Radio report, the deputy head said that Taiwan is a part of China and the Chinese people themselves can settle the Taiwan issue. In other words, he had to remind the United States again that there is only one China, and Taiwan is a part of China. Washington has repeatedly acknowledged this point in official documents, including the U.S.-China joint communique. However, many facts prove that this acknowledgement is nothing but a pretense, as the U.S. has always stubbornly played the trick of two Chinas, or one China and one Taiwan.

First, the United States persistently continues to arm the Taipei regime and enhance its military potential by every possible means. In the 1982 U.S.-China joint communique, Washington made a solemn promise to stop its military aid to Taipei. Nevertheless, the U.S. military aid to Taiwan so far has exceeded $5.8 billion.

There are some changes in the military aid to the Kuomintang elements. Modern weapons are mass produced in Taiwan with U.S. assistance. Newspapers have repeatedly reported that Taiwan is producing various kinds of guided missiles with U.S. patents and technology. Since 1982, Taiwan has begun to develop its supersonic jets, with great support from the United States, of course. One and a half years ago, the Taiwan authorities asked the United States to assist in modernizing Taiwan's navy. According to *Far East Economic Review*, the United States promised Taiwan its assistance. Similar situation exists in Taiwan's production of tanks and other military weapons.

People are not surprised by the reports that Taiwan is joining South Africa and Israel in striving to develop nuclear weapons. It is not known how Taiwan obtains the necessary production technology and raw and processed materials.

Chinese Cultural Delegation Visits Kiev

AU241338 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 1 Sep 87 p 3

[RATAU report: "Kiev Hosts a Chinese Delegation"]

[Text] A delegation of cultural workers from the People's Republic of China, headed by Liu Deyou, PRC vice minister of culture, spent 2 days in Kiev recently. The delegation was in our country at the invitation of the USSR Ministry of Culture.

The delegation members held talks at the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture. Minister Yu. A. Olenenko gave the visitors an account of the work performed by the republic's theaters, concert organizations, and creative collectives under the conditions of restructuring. Mutual interest in many-sided cultural relations between our countries was pointed out during the conversation. The leader of the Chinese delegation expressed confidence that similar contacts between the PRC and the USSR, including the Ukrainian SSR, will be fruitful.

The cultural figures from the PRC saw the exposition of the Kiev branch of the Central V.I. Lenin Museum, and visited the Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Patriotic War 1941-45 memorial complex. They toured the city, and inspected its historical and architectural monuments.

Northeast Asia

Shevardnadze Warns Kuranari on Dispute

OW260211 Tokyo KYODO in English 0155 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] New York, Sept. 25 KYODO—Japan and the Soviets Friday clashed over a Japanese claim to four small islands off northern Japan, with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze warning that bilateral ties will suffer if Tokyo sticks to the territorial issue.

Japanese officials said Shevardnadze sounded the warning in talks with Japan's Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari in a meeting foreshadowed by frosty Japanese-Soviet ties.

Shevardnadze repeated the Soviet position that Japan has no right to claim over the cluster of islands which the Soviets occupied toward the end of World War II.

"Historically, there is no foundation in Japan's claim to the islands," a Japanese official paraphrased Shevardnadze's response when Kuranari raised the territorial issue.

According to Japanese officials, Shevardnadze then warned that the Japanese claim will "constitute an obstruction if Japan regards the issue was a precondition (for improving bilateral ties) and takes the matter up in the form of an ultimatum."

The hour-long meeting, which took place at the Soviet U.N. mission, was held amid new strains in bilateral ties stemming from the illegal sale of sophisticated milling machines from a Japanese company to the Soviet Union.

The transaction, which enabled the Soviets to make quieter submarine propellers, prompted Tokyo to stiffen controls of exports of sensitive technology to the Soviet Union and other communist countries.

Shevardnadze also dismissed Kuranari's demand that the Soviets pull out their troops stationed in the northern islands, saying that Japan "has no business" in this matter, Japanese officials said.

Shevardnadze also revealed that he has no plan to visit Japan this year for regular foreign-minister consultations.

The Soviet foreign minister cited his tight schedule as preventing him from making a Tokyo visit this year, Japanese officials said.

Shevardnadze indicated he would go to Tokyo next year, promising to consult with Japan on the matter at a later date, they said.

While turning down his own Tokyo visit, Shevardnadze agreed with Kuranari that their deputies should hold talks this fall for their regular working-level consultation.

Addressing East-West relations, Kuranari commended Shevardnadze for concluding the recent U.S.-Soviet agreement to scrap all medium-range nuclear missiles and urged the Soviets to further promote arms reductions together with the United States.

In response, Shevardnadze said the Soviet commitment also to eliminate its medium-ranged nuclear missiles in Asia has created conditions to turn Asia into a nuclear-free region.

Shevardnadze said he believes the U.S.-Soviet agreement on medium-range missiles has opened up prospects for improvement in overall East-West ties.

The meeting with Shevardnadze marked the end of a series of high-level diplomatic contacts Kuranari undertook during his six-day stay in New York.

Speaking at a news conference Friday evening, Kuranari said U.N. Secretary Javier Perez de Cuellar should continue his peace mission aimed at ending the Iran-Iraq war but urged Iran to accept the U.N. call for a ceasefire.

Kuranari, who started off his globe-trotting diplomatic trip to Iraq and Jordan last week, leaves for San Dominica [as received] Saturday for a three-nation tour of the Caribbean and Latin America.

Japanese Deputies Arrive in Moscow

LD251720 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—A delegation of deputies of the Japanese Parliament, representing various political parties of the country, arrived here today on the invitation of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

More on Dolgikh's Visit to Mongolia

Meets With Batmonh

PM250957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Working Visit"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 22 Sep—J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] People's Great Hural Presidium, had a meeting today at the MPRP Central Committee with V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. D. Sodnom, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers, B. Altangerel, D. Molomjamts, B. Dejid, Ts. Namsray, and B. Lamjab, members of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo, P. Damdin, candidate member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo, Ts. Balhaajab, secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, and other officials participated in the meeting.

During the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and mutual understanding, the sides told each other about progress in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and 19th MPRP Congress.

The sides discussed developing Soviet-Mongolian economic cooperation and measures to increase its effectiveness. Emphasis was placed at the meeting on the great importance of the practical implementation of measures outlined during the Mongolian-Soviet summit meeting in June this year for the further deepening and improvement of cooperation and development of ties between the CPSU and MPRP and between the two countries and peoples.

V.I. Dolgikh talked about restructuring the life of Soviet society and implementation of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January and June (1987) Plenums. He talked of the practical measures to implement the radical reform in the economic sphere, in particular the leading industrial and transport sectors.

J. Batmonh noted the major restructuring of social life in the USSR is a striking example to Mongolian Communists and all working people in the country.

The Mongolian leader expressed complete support for the constructive new peace initiatives set out in M.S. Gorbachev's article "The Reality and Guarantees of a Secure World." The MPR will actively contribute to their implementation. J. Batmonh described as an historic event the achievement of an accord in principle between the USSR and the United States on concluding a treaty on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles and noted that the MPR welcomes the upcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting.

K.YE. Fomichenko, USSR ambassador to the MPR, participated in the conversation.

On the same day V.I. Dolgikh laid wreaths at the D. Suhebaatar and H. Choybalsan mausoleum. Flowers were laid at the monument to V.I. Lenin.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary visited the V.I. Lenin Museum

V.I. Dolgikh acquainted himself with the work of the Ulaanbaatar No 4 Heat and Electric Power Station and the capital's housing construction combine, constructed with Soviet assistance.

Visits Mongolian Plants

PM280913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 87 Second Edition p4

[TASS report: "Visit to Mongolia"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 24 Sep—V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is in the Mongolian People's Republic on a working visit, is continuing to learn about the country. He has visited the cement and lime combine at Khutul and talked with the enterprise's workers and specialists and the settlement's inhabitants.

Today the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee arrived in Erdenet. A conversation was held in the MPRP city committee. This young industrial center incorporates mining, light, food, timber, and wood processing industrial enterprises.

V.I. Dolgikh visited the "Erdenet" Mining and Enriching Combine based in an area of natural copper and molybdenum deposits. This is a joint Mongolian-Soviet enterprise. Its international collective is steadily fulfilling the plan for all indicators. Highly mechanized and supplied with the most up-to-date equipment, the combine is highly profitable: In less than 9 years it has

completely repaid the resources used to build it. In addition to this, the joint enterprise has become a forge where skilled national cadres are trained.

At his meeting with the mining and enriching combine's managers and specialists, the sides discussed the issues of developing production, rationally utilizing the raw material base, and introducing the achievements of technical progress. They noted the need to use reserves for increasing labor productivity and improving production efficiency.

Talking with Mongolian and Soviet specialists, V.I. Dolgikh inquired about the development of the social infrastructure. More than 80,000 square meters of housing have been built for workers at "Erdenet." There is also a Palace of Culture, a sports complex with a swimming pool, and a leisure center. A great deal of attention is devoted to the very young: The combine has built five kindergartens and two schools for them.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee also visited a local carpet factory.

V.I. Dolgikh was accompanied by D. Molomjamts, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, and P. Damdin, candidate member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee.

Visits USSR Embassy

LD251728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] The working visit by Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the Mongolian People's Republic continues. Today he met the party-economic aktiv of Soviet organizations at the USSR Embassy. Comrade Dolgikh became acquainted with the work of the Ulaanbaatar automobile repair works and visited the museum at Marshall of the Soviet Union Zhukov's house in Ulaanbaatar, the state central museum, and the fine arts museum.

Further Meeting With Batmonh

LD260948 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0855 GMT 26 Sep

[Text] Ulaanbaater, 26 Sep (TASS)—A meeting took place today between Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural, and Vladimir Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He is in the MPR at the invitation of the MPRP Central Committee.

Issues of the further development of Soviet-Mongolian economic and scientific and technical cooperation were discussed. The discussion took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The same day Vladimir Dolgikh left for his homeland.

Concludes Visit 26 Sep

LD261902 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 26 Sep 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today Comrade Dolgikh left for home. He was seen off at the airport by Demchigyn Molomjamts, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the MPRP; Paabangiyn Damdin, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the party Central Committee; and other officials.

Stops Off in Irkutsk

LD261903 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] On his way from Mongolia to Moscow, Comrade Dolgikh stopped off in Irkutsk. He visited an aluminum works and talked with workers and specialists. At a meeting with its leader, he discussed the new factors appearing in the work of the enterprise in conditions of restructuring and the transfer to financial autonomy and self-financing. Comrade Dolgikh was accompanied by Comrade Sitnikov, first secretary of Irkutsk Obkom.

Met by Talyzin in Moscow

LD261906 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Sep 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today Comrade Dolgikh returned to Moscow. At the airport he was met by Comrade Talyzin and other officials.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Hun Sen on Sihanouk Statement

LD262102 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 26 Sep 87

[Text] Phnom Penh September 26 TASS—Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, answered questions of a TASS correspondent.

Question: Comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers, what do you think about the recent statement by Norodom Sihanouk on a meeting between the confronting Khmer groups, whose idea was put forward by seven former Khmer political figures?

Answer: You, certainly, know the stand of the People's Republic of Kampuchea on a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. We have for quite a long time been ready for a political settlement provided other sides also show the same intention. We have always believed that a

politcal settlement can be accomplished only by the Cambodian people themselves, which implies the need for a dialogue between the conflicting Khmer sides.

Proceeding from that stand, the People's Republic of Kampuchea has welcomed and approved the agreement of July 29, 1987, reached in Ho Chi Minh city between Vietnam, representing the three countries of Indochina, and Indonesia, representing the ASEAN member countries. That agreement provided an opportunity for a settlement of the Cambodian problem as well as of the problems of south east Asia on the basis of equality, respect for mutual interests of the sides, and without preliminary strings attached.

The considerations contained in the letter from seven former Khmer political figures to the leaders of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Khmer groups can be considered to be of interest. The statement by Norodom Sihanouk issued on September 18 this year by his representation in Bangkok expressing consent to a dialogue between various Cambodian sides, coincides with the stand of the People's Republic of Kampuchea set forth in the statement by its government on the national reconciliation policy.

Noticeable in Norodom Sihanouk's attitude to that issue at present are sound ideas. Yet it is not clear to me as before whether Sihanouk will be as free in his actions as he is in his thoughts, or he will again yield to the pressure by the belligerent forces preferring war to a dialogue. One cannot help asking: Is Sihanouk a realist? Is he independent?

Question: If a dialogue were really held, what questions would the People's Republic of Kampuchea raise?

Answer: I would like to be specific on that issue: Attaching preliminary strings to a dialogue would be unjustified. The main thing is that this meeting should permit a discussion of everything which each side will wish. It would be possible to examine at it any question and find out what and how should be done to put an end to the conflict in the interests of national reconciliation and rehabilitation of the country. I would like to add that a political settlement of the problem can be reached—only provided all the sides make their stands more flexible toward each other and reckon with the mutual interests. Any imposition before a dialogue of the viewpoint of one side on the other would be an obstacle in the way to a political settlement, as happened to the eight point proposals of the three party coalition, which even predetermined the government's formula, and in this event the dialogue becomes meaningless.

Nishanov Receives SRV Chief Justice

PM280909 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] R.N. Nishanov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Pham Hung, chief justice of the SRV Supreme People's Court, 24 September.

In a friendly conversation the visitor was briefed on the activity of the USSR's supreme organ of state power at the present stage. Further development of Soviet-Vietnamese relations was discussed. It was noted that regular contacts between jurists from both countries help to deepen multifaceted cooperation and to strengthen fraternal friendship between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples.

Eavesdropping in Australia 'Absurd'

LD251758 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] The Australian press has unleashed a new campaign of absurd accusations against Soviet institutions in the country. The main papers came out today with a sensational report claiming that a van from the Soviet Embassy in the Australian capital equipped with electronic listening equipment is driving around town and intercepting not only the most secret radio and telephone conversations but also signals in the computer networks of government institutions. They also affirmed that the building of the USSR trade representation is fitted with a most complex system of antennae, also intended for electronic interception.

The author of all these fabrications is Professor Desmond Ball, renowned in Australia as a spy catcher, who heads the Strategic and Defense Studies Center at the Australian National University. A little more than 1 year ago he uncovered microwave receiving antenna on the building of the Soviet Embassy. On inspection they proved to be ventilation pipes.

Near East & South Asia

Reportage on Situation in Persian Gulf

LD250645 Moscow TASS in English 0641 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 25 (TASS)—The 26 crew members of the Iranian ship attacked by U.S. helicopters several days ago were captured by the United States in the Persian Gulf and taken aboard the amphibious ship *Raleigh* of the U.S. Navy. Under the escort of combatant ships it headed for Oman, AP news agency reported today refering to sources in the Pentagon.

The United States plans to hand over the Iranian seamen to Oman through the mediation of the International Red Cross this Saturday.

Sources at the U.S. Defence Department told AP that U.S. Army helicopters which attacked the Iranian ship are part of a previously secret helicopter unit called the "Night Stalkers" or more formally known as the Task Force 160.

The helicopters sprayed the Iranian ship with cannon fire from machine-guns and rockets. Task Force 160 now has about 900 men with roughly 75 helicopters of three types fitted out with modern equipment, AP points out.

The special Army helicopters were sent to the Persian Gulf to counter Iranian speedboats, because U.S. aircraft-carrier helicopters in the region are better adapted to anti-submarine warfare than to high-speed surface fleet. Earlier, Task Force 160 has seen combat only once—during the 1983 U.S. invasion of Grenada.

President Reagan tried to convince congressmen, who feel increasing concern over the build-up of U.S. military might in the Persian Gulf, that U.S. helicopters had all grounds to attack the Iranian ship. In his report sent to Congress Thursday the President, in part, assures lawmakers that this action stemmed from the right to self-defence envisaged by Article 51 of the U.N. Charter.

Embassy in Beirut Denies Arms Sales to Iran
NC270649 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in Beirut has reiterated that Moscow is interested in establishing goodneighborly relations with Iran. It affirmed, however, that this should not be at the expense of Soviet-Arab relations, including Moscow's relations with Iraq.

In a statement it issued to this effect, the Soviet Embassy declared that the Soviet Union is not selling arms to Iran. In this connection, the statement reaffirmed the denial made by a Soviet Foreign Ministry official last Thursday. In that denial, the official described as completely baseless reports published by Kuwaiti and other Arab newspapers on the supply to Iran of 1,000 Soviet missiles. The statement went on to say that UN Security Council Resolution 598 represents a realistic political program for resolving the Iraq-Iran dispute.

Brutents Reportedly Meets PLO Official
LD251446 Kuwait KUNA in English 1342 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Rome, Sept 25 (KUNA)—A Palestinian envoy has met here with a senior official of the Soviet Communist Party and conducted a full assessment of the current situation in the Middle East region, reliable sources told KUNA here Friday.

They said the meeting between PLO representatives in Rome, Nimr Haddad and Soviet Communist Party Central Committee member, Karen Brutents, held a few day ago, was in the context of a Palestinian diplomatic drive to seek stronger international support for the Palestine cause.

The focus of the talks, the sources went on, was efforts to resolve the Palestinian cause at an international peace conference bringing together all disputing parties, and the five big powers of the U.N. Security Council.

According to the sources, Haddad and Brutents reviewed "Washington's new stance endorsing prerequisites for the Mideast peace conference."

The sources indicated that the Soviet official stressed anew the Kremlin's firm support for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian problem.

The sources, both Arab and Italian, noted that Haddad and Brutents expressed satisfaction at the current state of Palestinian-Soviet links.

Vorontsov Receives Iranian Ambassador
LD251629 Moscow TASS in English 1646 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, today received Naser Hayrani-Nobari, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Soviet Union, at the latter's request.

During the conversation they discussed some questions of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and Iran and the situation in the region [not further specified].

Antipov Interviewed on Tel Aviv Assignment
PM271533 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview "A few days ago, on his return to Moscow" with Ye.S. Antipov, deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Consular Administration, by A. Ostalskiy under the "IZVESTIYA Interview" rubric: "To Tel Aviv on Consular Business"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] A group of Soviet consular officials has been in Tel Aviv since 12 July this year. Its leader is Ye.S. Antipov, deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Consular Administration. A few days ago, on his return to Moscow, he gave an interview to *Izvestiya*'s correspondent.

[Ostalskiy] Yevgeniy Sergeyevich, there has been much conjecture in the Western press surrounding your group's trip to Israel. It has even been written that its aim is, allegedly, the restoration of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel; there have been allusions to an "abrupt shift" almost in Soviet Near East policy. Just what is your group actually doing in Israel? What is its official status?

[Antipov] We have been assigned to the USSR interests section of the Finnish Embassy in Tel Aviv. In normal circumstances there is not a single Soviet official in the section. We have two precise, definite aims. First, to extend the validity of the passports of USSR citizens residing permanently in Israel, or, if necessary, to issue them with new documents. Second, there exists a pressing need to ascertain the condition of real estate there belonging to the Soviet state. Our group has not resolved and is not resolving any political or diplomatic tasks whatsoever.

So, as you can see, our trip has nothing to do with the problem of restoring diplomatic relations. The Soviet Union, as CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev has stated on this score, does not consider their absence to be a normal situation. But the

reason for this situation is Israel's aggression against the Arab countries, and the occupation of Arab lands. Therefore diplomatic ties must be restored as part of the process of an overall settlement of the Near East conflict. The best way toward this settlement is the holding of an international conference on the Middle East.

[Ostalskiy] Tell me, approximately how many Soviet citizens live in Israel? What is the origin of our property there?

[Antipov] According to our calculations, there are about 2,500 Soviet citizens in Israel. These are chiefly individuals who came out to this country from the USSR prior to 1967 or who ended up there via third states, as well as members of the spiritual mission of the Russian Orthodox Church. As for the property, this is tracts of land and installations acquired before the October revolution and representing the property of our state on the basis of succession.

[Ostalskiy] Tell us, please, how your work is going.

[Antipov] To be quite honest about it, it was tough going at the start. In the first week we were receiving some 200 people a day. After we had seen them we still had to process the documents. Israeli as well as Soviet citizens came to us. We explained to the former that our activities extended only to those individuals who had not lost their Soviet citizenship, and the flow of callers began to diminish. In addition, our group is familiarizing itself with the condition of objects of real estate located within Israel's borders and is clarifying their legal status. As it has turned out, this is a very complex and laborious business. The group is currently continuing its work on resolving these problems.

[Ostalskiy] Have you managed to secure normal conditions for your work?

[Antipov] Yes, and for this we must thank above all the Finnish Embassy in Israel and the ambassador, Mr O. Vainola, personally. The Israeli authorities have also displayed understanding for the group's tasks and have rendered it all the necessary assistance.

In general it has to be said that the Israelis' attitude toward us as a whole has been one of interest and amicability. But there have been unpleasant exceptions—hostile, to put it bluntly—such as hooligan attacks [vylazki] by extreme right-wing Zionist organizations of non-Israeli—if it can be put like that—origin. I recall the so-called "35 Committee," whose headquarters is located in London. True, after we appealed to the Israeli Foreign Ministry the local authorities took energetic measures to suppress these provocative actions.

As for the hardships, the cost of living in Israel was way beyond what we were expecting. For instance, from our experience with other countries, we estimated that it would cost around $20 a day to hire a car for the group. It turned out, however, that this could not be done for less than $115. Food and hotels also cost far more than we had supposed.

The heat has been very tiring. It reached 40 degrees at the end of summer—an abnormally high temperature even for these parts.

[Ostalskiy] How do you spend your free time?

[Antipov] There isn't much of it. But if the opportunity presents itself to visit other cities, see the local sights, and visit museums then we try not to miss out. We have visited the spiritual mission of the Russian Orthodox Church. The priests and monks there—40 to 50 of them—received us very cordially. All the same, their life in Israel is a difficult one, the separation from their homeland is felt acutely.

[Ostalskiy] Is it noticeable that the war climate in Israel is essentially being maintained?

[Antipov] Yes, it is noticeable. On the streets many young people—young men and women and, indeed, people of middle age—are in uniform. Young people must undergo compulsory military retraining every year. Many whom we have met have complained in conversation about the tense social atmosphere and the population's psychological exhaustion with the war situation.

Envoy to Jordan on Gulf War, Other Issues

JN261640 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Sep 87 p 26

["Text" of interview with Aleksandr Zinchuk, Soviet ambassador to Jordan, by Rakan al-Majali, published in conjunction with Kuwait AL-QABAS—place, date not given]

[Text] [Al-Majali] Mr Ambassador, do you believe that the meeting between the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minsiter on nuclear arms has brought international detente closer? What impact does this have on regional issues?

[Zinchuk] The meeting between the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States has yielded satisfactory results. The two sides agreed to continue efforts to sign an agreement on the basis of reductions in some types of weapons. It is possible that the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers will meet in the latter half of October. Until this date with the United States through the committees in Geneva to accomplish everything. [sentence as published] We hope there will be a summit meeting if the agreement succeeds.

[Al-Majali] A report today spoke about a meeting between the U.S. secretary of state and USSR foreign minister to discuss the Gulf war on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meetings.

[Zinchuk] I think that our foreign minister will begin a Latin American tour and, in my opinion, there is no chance for such a meeting on the Gulf war.

[Al-Majali] Let us return to the subject of the Gulf war, particularly Resolution No 598. There is a feeling that there is something new in the issuance of this resolution,

but the question is about the seriousness of implementing it.

[Zinchuk] We believe that the Gulf war is within the UN Security Council's working program and is not an issue between the United States and the Soviet Union. We believe that the Security Council and the international community as a whole should continue to work for the implmentation of Resolution No 598. We also believe that it is essential to continue efforts to implement this resolution within the United Nations and the Security Council.

[Al-Majali] But how?

[Zinchuk] We believe that we must exert efforts to implement this resolution. If it is not implemented, we should think of the next steps. However, we do not think it is necessary at present to adopt other resolutions imposing sanctions on Iran by means of an arms embargo. We know that most of the weapons reaching Iran are obtained via the free or black market. Yesterday, for instance, Jordanian television aired documents about a Swedish dealer who sold Iran weapons worth $600 million via the black market. He is not the only one helping Iran. This is only an example. We believe that contacts should be maintained with Iran and Iraq. We are dutybound to hold more contacts with Iran to convince them to sit down at the negotiating table to resolve this problem peacefully.

[Al-Majali] And if Iran continues to reject?

[Zinchuk] In that case, we will be ready to discuss all means within the Security Council. We will then discuss all resolutions and steps proposed by the concerned parties or the Security Council, the United Nations, and international quarters.

[Al-Majali] Does the Soviet Union believe that Iran may halt the war?

[Zinchuk] I think that Iran must agree to an end to the war in the near future because continuing the war does not hold great prospects for Iran. Of course it is possible that we will wait for some time, but I personally believe that Iran will agree to end the war.

[Al-Majali] Some people say that pressure should be exerted on Iran to stop the war and that the recent Soviet stand will help Iran continue the war.

[Zinchuk] The issue of exerting pressure on Iran is clear in UN Security Council Resolution No 598. However, as for the statements that the USSR is helping Iran continue the war, they are baseless. As is known, the USSR is one of the states that insists on the implementation of Resolution No 598. Moreover, there are direct contacts between Moscow and Tehran. There were also several Soviet delegations visiting Tehran recently as well as Iranian delegations visiting Moscow. We are trying to deal with the Iranian Government on the basis of the need to stop the war. We can say that we have reached no conclusions so far. However, we seek to continue our efforts to eventually convince Iran to stop the war.

[Al-Majali] Some newspapers published reports on reciprocal agreements between the USSR and Iran. These agreements include building an Iranian oil pipeline across Soviet territory, building a Soviet railway and so forth. All these agreements came after the signing of Resolution No 598. How true are these reports, and how can this affect Soviet enthusiasm for the implementation of the resolution?

[Zinchuk] There is economic cooperation between Iran and the USSR. It is old and still exists. However, I would like to say that this cooperation has nothing to do with the Gulf war because the cooperation between the two countries is in peaceful areas and not in the field of arms. We are continuing this cooperation, and we seek to promote it. This cooperation does not harm the situation in the Gulf or the efforts to stop the Gulf war. Moreover, it has nothing to do with this. The current Soviet-Iranian cooperation is not at the expense of the Arab states.

[Al-Majali] We would like to know Moscow's impressions of the visit to Moscow by a delegation of the seven-member Arab committee on the Gulf war. This is because some feel that this visit did not match Arab hopes.

[Zinchuk] I would like to say that in our opinion the seven-member Arab committee delegation's visit was successful. Cordial and frank talks were held between the Soviet and Arab sides. During the talks, we said that our stand toward the Gulf war is firm and principled. Moreover, the Soviet officials spoke about our efforts to end the war. As far as I know, the Arab ministers in the committee showed understanding of the Soviet stand, but they wanted more. However, during the talks, which were held in Moscow, they understood the true Soviet stand.

[Al-Majali] There is an Arab decision to hold an emergency Arab summit in Amman to define an Arab stand on the difficult issues. What is your opinion on this?

[Zinchuk] We believe that this summit will produce useful results because the USSR considers Arab unity useful for both the Arabs and the peace issue. In the USSR, we believe that holding an Arab summit is a positive step toward settling critical issues such as the Gulf war and the Arab-Israeli conflict. We in the USSR support efforts to close Arab ranks. This summit will be useful and will serve the issue of peace throughout the world.

[Al-Majali] There is talk of the possibility of convening an international conference to resolve the Middle East issue in an atmosphere of international accord between the two superpowers. This includes the possibility that the United States may change its position and agree to this conference.

[Zinchuk] I can say that there are constant contacts between the Soviet and U.S. Governments to resolve the Middle East problem and try and bring the positions closer. The last meeting on this was in Geneva at the end of July between Soviet representatives and Murphy. We will continue with these efforts. I can say that the U.S. side has agreed to the convocation of the conference, but there are differences in the U.S. and Soviet viewpoints on the work of this conference. We want to continue our efforts with the U.S. side so that the United States can develop its stand on this conference. We are convinced that the Arab countries must bring pressure to bear on the U.S. stand. I believe that if unified resolutions are adopted at the Amman summit insisting on the convocation of the international conference, it will greatly help in convening the international conference to resolve the Middle East problem.

[Al-Majali] Is there an identity of views between the Soviet and Jordanian sides on convening the international conference?

[Zinchuk] It can be said that there are no differences between the stands of the USSR and Jordan on the convocation of the international conference. We can say that the stands are congruent. The USSR and Jordan are, of course, exerting efforts to convene the international conference. There are obstacles—Palestinian representation among them—that hamper the convocation of the conference. However, we believe that these difficulties can be overcome.

[Al-Majali] There are issues that are being raised about the Soviet stand, including the immigration of Soviet Jews and political contacts between the USSR and Israel. Some believe that the actions of some socialist countries in establishing some form of relations with Israel are being conducted with the USSR's knowledge and approval.

[Zinchuk] I would like to say that the question of the immigration of Soviet Jews is there. However, we regard this as a strictly domestic issue. There are Soviet Jews who wish to leave the USSR, but their number is small. It is known from newspapers that only 25 percent of Soviet Jews who immigrate go to Israel. We regard this as a humanitarian issue related to uniting families. We believe that the immigration of some families does not cause concern in the Arab countries because it does not alter the balance of power in the region. As for contacts between the USSR and Israel, there are some forms of contact. There are consular contacts because a significant number of Soviet citizens is there, and there are Soviet properties in Israel. The task of the consular mission in Israel is confined to this.

[Al-Majali] But there are political contacts?

[Zinchuk] There must be contacts between Israel and the international parties because any solution to the problem requires Israel's participation. Sometimes Israel and the Soviet Union hold political contacts, especially in Bonn, where Shevardnadze met with Peres. We view this as natural because there must be an Israeli participation.

[Al-Majali] But all this takes place as part of the current settlement moves. Such activities have not existed since 1967?

[Zinchuk] We can say that the Soviet Union is trying to influence the situation to get Israel to take a more logical position on the settlement.

[Al-Majali] What about the socialist countries?

[Zinchuk] Regarding this question, we can say that there is an expanded diplomatic presence in Hungary and Poland. These two countries maintain diplomatic officials in Israel. This took place without Soviet approval, but we cannot prevent them, and our relations with the socialist countries do not allow us to exercise any pressures.

[Al-Majali] Will you please explain reports that His Majesty King Husayn will visit Moscow?

[Zinchuk] There is a real desire for that visit this year. It will be very useful because we have several topics to be discussed in Moscow. The two sides maintain similar views on the Middle East issue, and talks should continue. We are also interested in bilateral relations. Therefore, the visit will be useful.

[Al-Majali] When will the visit take place?

[Zinchuk] It will take place when the two sides set a date for it.

[Al-Majali] Jordan has previously obtained weapons from the Soviet Union, especially a surface missile system. It is said that Jordan will complement its air defenses from the Soviet Union. What is the degree of armament cooperation between Jordan and the Soviet Union?

[Zinchuk] Military cooperation between the Soviet Union and Jordan is continuing. We know that Jordan needs these weapons for defensive purposes. Without going into detail, this cooperation is continuing. As I said, King Husayn will discuss bilateral relations during his visit to Moscow.

Katushev's Visit, Talks in Iraq Reported

PM251003 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Sep—The Soviet government delegation led by K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, has concluded its visit to Iraq. Meetings were held with Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and Iraqi first deputy prime minister. The sides discussed questions of developing Soviet-Iraqi relations and ways to expand and further develop economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR

and Iraq. T.Y. Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the positive results of Soviet-Iraqi cooperation and reaffirmed that there are strong bonds of friendship between the two countries. During the talks the sides expressed the desire to broaden and diversify the forms of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq.

Talks were also held with Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, minister of heavy industries, Isam 'Abd al-Rahim al-Jalabi, oil minister, and other Iraqi officials. The sides discussed specific issues of Soviet-Iraqi cooperation, progress made in implementing signed contracts, and the prospects for developing cooperation in the oil and gas industry and power engineering.

The Soviet delegation was accompanied to the airport by Q.A. al-'Uraybi, minister of heavy industries, and other Iraqi officials. Those present included V.I. Vodyakhin, Soviet charge d'affaires ad interim in Iraq.

Iraqi Minister Praises Economic Cooperation
LD221636 Moscow TASS in English 1243 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad September 22 TASS—"Our economic cooperation with the Soviet Union rests on a long-term basis, and we highly appreciate it," Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, Iraqi minister of the heavy industry, has said in an interview with TASS correspondent Aleksandr Bolmatov.

"The past years have shown a high resultativeness of this cooperation which meets the interests of the national economy".

The minister pointed out that many industrial facilities which are of great importance to Iraq had been put into operation due to Soviet technical assistance.

The recently concluded talks with the Soviet Government delegation led by Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, became yet another reaffirmation of the relations of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq.

The results of the talks which were held in a constructive spirit are indicative of a desire of the two sides to develop forms of cooperation. They consolidate the policy line which was mapped out during the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secreatry of the CPSU Central Committee, and president Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

The minister spoke of the existence of wide prospects in the development of cooperation, and said that they should conform to the level which had been achieved in political relations between the two countries.

Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi spoke highly of the work of Soviet specialists, pointing out their professional mastery and a high sense of responsibility in the performance of their duty.

Wakil Comments on Soviet Stand on DRA
LD241125 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] New York September 24 TASS—By TASS correspondents Sergey Baybakov and Vyacheslav Chernyshev:

The speech addressed by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, to the U.N. General Assembly session has produced an enormous impression on the Afghan and other delegations in the hall of plenary assembly sessions. It will undoubtedly meet with support from all the peaceable and progressive forces the world over, said 'Abdol Wakil, Afghanistan's foreign minister. The report contains a comprehensive and all-round analysis of the situation in the world and of the problems confronting humanity, points ways for their resolution, he told the TASS correspondents. Unlike the statement by U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the U.N., who was discussing the international situation from the viewpoint of diktat towards other countries, the Soviet Union set forth rational and realistic ways of their settlement on the basis of new thinking.

'Abdol Wakil said that the Soviet foreign policy programme provides answers both to global and regional problems pertaining to a settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. We fully support the USSR's stand on that issue, he stressed.

Dobrynin Receives Indian Parliamentarian
LD252225 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Sep 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Dobrynin today received Bali Ram Bhagat, a member of the Indian parliament and chairman of "Friends of the Soviet Union," who is in the USSR at the invitation of the Union of Soviet friendship Societies and Societies for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries to take part in the events dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. They discussed Soviet-Indian relations. It was stressed that the interaction of the USSR and India is a major factor for peace and stability. Their talk passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Gorbachev Message Handed to YAR President
LD220926 Moscow TASS in English 0625 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Sanaa September 22 TASS—President of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received here on Monday Soviet Ambassador to this country Veniamin Popov, who handed him a message of the Soviet leader.

The North Yemeni leader expressed satisfaction with agreement in principle between the USSR and the USA on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles.

Tatilyev Meets With YAR's Salih 26 Sep

LD270903 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2130 GMT 26 Sep

[Text] Sanaa, 27 Sep (TASS)—A Soviet official delegation, headed by S.B. Tatilyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, here to attend the festivities marking the 25th anniversary of the anti-monarchist revolution of 26 September, met yesterday with A.A. Salih, president of the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR]. During the friendly conversation, the head of the Soviet delegation conveyed to the North Yemeni leader and, through his person, to all the people of the YAR, congratulations and best wishes from the Soviet people and the USSR leadership. The members of the delegation noted the considerable progress achieved by the friendly people of North Yemen in various areas of social and economic construction over the last quarter of a century.

President A.A. Salih gave a high appraisal of the cooperation between the YAR and the Soviet Union in various spheres and noted its important role in the successes achieved by the Republic. Mutual satisfaction was expressed with the high level of Soviet-North Yemeni relations, the 60th anniversary of which our countries are preparing to mark next year, and also a mutual striving to develop them was affirmed. The important role of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, signed in 1984 within the framework of the visit by President A.A. Salih to the Soviet Union, in strengthening Soviet-North Yemeni ties, was stressed.

V.V. Popov, USSR ambassador to the YAR, was present during the conversation.

That same day the delegation attended a large military parade devoted to the anniversary.

PDRY Premier Stops Over; Met by Tolstykh

PM240959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Sep 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Y.S. Nu'man, member of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee Politburo and prime minister of the PDRY, stopped over in Moscow 19-21 September on his way to Prague.

The guest was met and seen off at the airport by V.L. Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

BRIEFS

Protocal Signed

A protocol for cooperation and a memorandum of understanding between Democratic Yemen and the Soviet Union in the fields of maritime transport and civil aviation were signed in Moscow yesterday after the conclusion of a series of discussions held by Brother Salih 'Abdallah Muthana, minister of communications, and the USSR minister of communications and Maritime Merchant Fleet, the deputy chairman of the Standing Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, the minister of Civil Aviation and the USSR deputy minister of Foreign Trade. The agreements signed by Brother Salih 'Abdallah Muthana with the Soviet side specifies the areas of future cooperation in the fields of maritime and air transport between the two countries. [Text] *[Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 Sep 87 EA]*

East Europe

Slyun'kov Receives Visiting SED Delegation

LD251719 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty links between the CPSU and the SED, a delegation of SED functionaries led by Guenter Ehrensperger, member of the SED Central Committee and head of the Planning and Finance Department of the SED Central Committee, was in Moscow from 21 to 25 September. It acquainted itself with the experience of the CPSU in enhancing the efficiency of the economy and improving the planning and management of the national economy.

The German comrades had meetings and conversations in departments of the CPSU Central Committee, at the USSR State Planning Committee, at the State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers and at USSR ministries and departments. They also visited the Kirov no 1 Clock Works in Moscow.

The delegation was received by Comrade Slyun'kov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Taking part in the conversation which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere were V. P. Mozhin, first deputy chief of the Economic Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and Gerd Koenig, the GDR's ambassador to the USSR.

Bulgaria's Radev, Delegation Begin Visit

PM251005 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Guests in the Capital"]

[Text] A delegation of the Bulgarian National Assembly Legislation Commission led by Y. Radev, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian State Council and chairman of the Legislation Commission, arrived in Moscow 21 September at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The delegation was met at the airport by V.P. Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Supreme Soviet Deputies V.G. Lomonosov and A. Y. Rybakov, and other officials.

Those present included M. Yotov, Bulgarian charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR.

On the same day a conversation was held with the delegation at the USSR Supreme Soviet Chambers' Legislative Proposals Commissions.

Shcherbitskiy Receives Outgoing Consul
AU281000 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 26 Sep 87 p 2

[Ratau report: "On the Occasion of Departure for Home"]

[Text] On 25 September V. V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee first secretary, received Ts. Nochev, consul general of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Kiev, on the occasion of the latter's forthcoming departure for home. A warm and friendly conversation was held.

Ts. Nochev was received by V. A. Masol, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman. During a meeting in the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium Y. G. Bakhtin, Presidium deputy chairman, presented the consul general of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with a honorary certificate of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium awarded for the latter's services in strengthening friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the USSR.

Ts. Nochev thanked the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Council of Ministers for the high appraisal of his work.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave a luncheon in honor of the consul general.

On the occasion of Ts. Nochev's departure for home, a friendly meeting was held. It was attended by leaders of a number of the republic's organizations and staff members of the consular institutions of the socialist countries in Kiev.

CPCZ's Jakes Writes on Restructuring
PM251545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 87 Second Edition p 5

["Own correspondent report: "Great Potential"]

[Text] Prague, 22 Sep—*Rude Pravo* has published an article by M. Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, entitled "Utilizing the Great Potential of Socialism." The author writes that the revolutionary task at the current stage consists in raising the people's living standards by means of the strategy of acceleration implemented by the CPCZ and effecting a structural restructuring, relying on the dynamic development of electronics, robotics, and biotechnology.

Referring to difficulties in plan fulfillment, the author cites the low standard of production management and organization, obsolete approaches to the leadership of enterprises, and lack of coordination and discipline in supply-and-sales relations as the causes of this situation. Describing the main features of the restructuring of the economic mechanism in Czechoslovakia, he writes that the introduction of this mechanism is by no means tantamount to a weakening of centralist principles in the management of the economy; on the contrary, it is called upon to add a new quality to centralism aimed at ensuring the basic proportions of the national economy.

The question of the need to improve the activity of the party and to deepen its leading role in the revolutionary process of restructuring assumes paramount importance. The draft law on the state enterprise, which is now being widely discussed by the working people, is aimed at the all-around development of the vast potential of the socialist economy. All cases of violation of legality, embezzlement, corruption, overreporting, and other abuses must be placed under rigorous public scrutiny.

Measures to establish direct contacts with partners in fraternal countries and to implement the tasks set in the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress have been adopted and are being implemented in the CSSR. So far 128 agreements on direct contacts between Czechoslovak and Soviet organizations, 12 contracts to create joint collectives, and 5 contracts to create joint enterprises have been concluded.

The restructuring of the economic mechanism, the author concludes, is to be understood as an integral part of the revolutionary program of comprehensive changes whose implementation will mean the achievement of a new quality of socialism.

Letters Sent to Editorial Board Reviewed
LD261507 Moscow International Service in Slovak 1500 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Text] In August *Sovetskaya Kultura* published a review of the letters which arrived at the editorial board of *Tvorba* weekly. Antonin (Bekhtin), author of one of the letters, remembered the roundtable organized by the editorial board under the slogan: Words which mean actions. It is significant, Comrade Bekhtin wrote, that the editorial board, together with linguists and journalists on other editorial boards, are considering the question of translating the notions of restructuring and glasnost. I agree with the view of Professor Koytikova, that restructuring [prestavba] is the equivalent of perestroyka. [sentence as heard] I should also like to draw attention to the fact that all-round restructuring of society is the present task of all socialist community countries.

Indeed, restructuring has firmly tentered our lives and it has also been indelibly imprinted in the dictionaries of many peoples of the world. This is witnessed also by the mail of our listeners. Many are stressing that what is taking place in the USSR is also important for Czechoslovakia. Interest in restructuring is not a mere curiosity,

Ladislav Plunar from Prague says. We are also busy with restructuring, to raise on a qualitatively higher level all that is necessary. The 17th CPCZ Congress has set out grand and responsible tasks before our people. In order to solve them we must look at many things from a different viewpoint, approach things from a different angle. Indeed, revolutionary transformations taking place in your country are revealing to us new perspectives, our listener Vladimir Frank, a railway worker from (Libouch), writes. Restructuring is aimed at increasing the people's well-being. Its aim is to increase the material and spiritual standard of life to a higher level.

We have found out from the press, radio, and television that in the USSR they have adopted a law on state enterprise, workers from the Kosice Ironworks said. We are attentively studying its contents. This law significantly expands production democracy and allows labor collectives, in this case, to be the true masters of their enterprise. At the same time increased responsibility is placed on everyone for all that is happening in a collective.

I attentively watch Soviet television programs that analyze the restructuring of the USSR's economic mechanism, and the intensifying of social economic development and the development of democracy, the letter of Petr Sisak from Gottwaldov says. Indeed, the revolutionary character is intrinsic in the changes the Soviet people are implementing in the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October. From the bottom of my heart, I wish the Soviet people success in this complicated and responsible affair. Western propaganda promotes the myth of socialism as a society which does not change, which is not being influenced by the wind of progressive changes, Jindrich [surname indistinct] from Znojmo said. Soviet society, by virtue of its own development, its facts and changes, has refuted the unsubstantiated nature of this myth. The letter of Jan Tesar, activist of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Association in Ostrava, says that the local branch of the association arranges debates and discussions about some articles devoted to changes in various spheres of life in Soviet society which are published in the Soviet press. People at these meetings discuss and consider what Soviet experiences can be possible implemented in Czechoslovakia. We thank the listeners for their views. We look forward to further letters.

We now invite those listeners who are interested in the development of space flights: Otto Suchanek from Levice, Jitka Buchtova from Brno, Naroslav Filip from Prague, and others. We should like to talk today about the Soviet northern cosmodrome which was put into use in 1960. Satellites, such as Molniya, Meteor, Intercosmos, and other satellites of scientific and national economic designation were launched from this cosmodrome. This is where satellites, within the framework of joint space programs, took off from. Taking part in these programs, together with Soviet scientists, were experts from the socialist countries, Sweden, Canada, the United States, India, and France. Officially, the northern cosmodrome was established in 1957. [passage indistinct]

West Europe

FRG-French Military Ties Viewed

LD251502 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

President Francois Mitterrand of France and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, speaking at a press conference on the completion of a Franco-West German military exercise, announced that their countries started talks on establishing a joint defense council.

One of its principal tasks will be coordination of joint efforts in the field of armaments and establishment of a joint military formation.

Paris and Bonn are thus moving further on along the path of militarizing bilateral relations, along the path posing a special threat to peace in Europe.

This militarization contradicts the interest of the peoples of both countries in peace and disarmament and the historic opportunities offered for all peoples in Europe by the Soviet-American agreement in principle to scrap medium- and shorter-range missiles.

The following points should be mentioned in this connection. Firstly, according to Bonn's design, wholly backed by official Paris, broadening the French concept of "nuclear deterrence" and use of French nuclear weapons for the "defense" of the Federal Republic should be one of the key points of Franco-West German military cooperation.

The French have gone as far as to say that Paris, acting within the framework of the "joint defense" (said the newspaper *Le Monde*), could provide nuclear weapons for missiles which Bonn now can produce thanks to the lifting by the Council of the Western European Union in June 1984 of the last remaining post-war ban on the production of certain types of weapons in the FRG.

Secondly, both Paris and Bonn actively campaign for the establishment of a "European defensive community." They hope that "Eurodefense" will counterbalance the Soviet peace initiatives directed at the elimination of nuclear weapons and fill in the vacuum to be allegedly formed following the elimination of American missiles in Europe.

CSU leader Franz-Josef Strauss presses for the creation of a "joint European nuclear potential" and the consolidation of "NATO's European foundations by reinforcing them with nuclear weapons."

Juergen Todenhoefer, an expert of the CDU/CSU Bundestag faction, repeatedly came out in favour of establishing "united nuclear forces" of Western Europe.

All this seems to be closely linked with Paris' stubborn commitment to nuclear weapons and Bonn's longstanding aspiration to join the "nuclear club," even if this would be through the back way.

This is why neither capital is eager to understand the need for renouncing the arms race in the nuclear and space age— the need for undertaking concerted efforts to advance along the path of disarmament and establish a comprehensive system of universal security.

French Socialist Jospin Visits Moscow

Arrives 22 Sep

LD221653 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 22 TASS—First Secretary of the French Socialist Party Lionel Jospin arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the airport he was met by member of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Head of the CPSU Central Committee's International Department Vadim Zagladin, senior functionaries of the CPSU Central Committee [sentence as received].

Meets With Solovyev

LD242008 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Jospin, first secretary of the Socialist Party of France, who is in the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, has visited Leningrad, where he had a conversation with Solovyev, first secretary of Leningrad Oblast CPSU committee and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. Jospin also acquainted himself with the sights of the hero city. [passage omitted]

Meets With Ligachev

LD251740 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yegor Ligachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin, and member of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee Vadim Zagladin had a conversation at the CPSU Central Committee today with First Secretary of the French Socialist Party Lionel Jospin.

Yegor Ligachev informed Lionel Jospin about the CPSU's revolutionary strategy of accelerating the socio-economic development of the USSR, the implemenation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, and the main aims and first results of the restructuring in various fields of society's life. He noted the special importance of the decisions of the January and June 1987 plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee for the CPSU's new political strategy directed at further democratizing Soviet society and developing the self-management of working people, at carrying out radical economic reforms. The transformations continue the cause of the October Revolution of 1917 and open up new possibilities for consolidating and perfecting socialism. The restructuring has the full support of the Soviet people and has brought about an upsurge of the creative forces of the broad popular masses.

Lionel Jospin noted that the French socialists and the entire French public are keenly interested in the restructuring in the Soviet Union.

Views were exchanged on the most pressing international questions, first of all questions of ensuring peace and disarmament and averting the nuclear danger.

Yegor Ligachev spoke about the importance of the Soviet initiatives and evaluations concerning questions of nuclear disarmament and the creation of a comprehensive system of security, outlined in Mikhail Gorbachev's article "The Reality and Guarantees of a Secure World." In present-day conditions, one must advance to the strengthening of peace by restructuring political thinking in accordance with the realities of the nuclear-space epoch. The genuine prospects of the conclusion of the Soviet-American agreement on the total elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles will create a qualitatively new situation for advance along the road of strengthening peace and nuclear disarmament.

It was noted that, on the one hand, the international situation remains complex and contradictory. But at the same time, there are growing signs of a change in the atmosphere of international relations, in public sentiments in favor of peace, security and nuclear disarmament. Much depends on the role assumed by responsible political forces in Europe and in the whole world: Will they facilitate the creation of favorable conditions for ensuring security and disarmament, or will they impede advance along this road? Mention in this connection was made of the non-constructive approach displayed by some French politicians to problems of nuclear disarmament and ensuring security in Europe on a non-nuclear basis.

Lionel Jospin outlined the FSP's approach to problems of nuclear disarmament and security in Europe, in particular to the problems of French nuclear arms. He said that in the opinion of French socialists the conclusion of the Soviet-American agreement on medium-range and shorter-range missiles will be of a positive significance for the interests of peace and security.

When questions of Soviet-French relations were discussed, both sides said that their further development in all fields fully accords with the interests of the peoples of both countries, the interests of peace and security in Europe and in the whole world. There exists a big untapped potential for developing Soviet-French cooperation, for imparting greater dynamism to it.

Yegor Ligachev said that the CPSU attaches much importance to developing the dialogue with socialists and social democrats, especially on questions of struggle against the danger of war, for peace and disarmament. The differences over political and ideological issues between communists and socialists should not be an obstacle to cooperation between them in the name of eliminating the nuclear danger and ensuring mankind's survival.

Questions of further developing ties and dialogue between the CPSU and the FSP were also discussed. Yegor Ligachev conveyed to Lionel Jospin an invitation of the CPSU Central Committee to send a delegation of the FSP to the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the great October Revolution.

The conversation passed in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

Departs 26 Sep

LD262038 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1336 GMT 26 Sep

[Text] Moscow, 26 Sep (TASS)—Lionel Jospin, first secretary of the French Socialist Party, who was staying in the USSR at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow for home today.

Latin America & Caribbean

Shevardnadze Arrives in Brazil 27 Sep

LD270422 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0415 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 27 Sep (TASS)—Eduard Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR minister of foreign affairs, arrived here from New York. He is paying an official visit to Brazil at the invitation of the country's government.

Brazil's Sodre on Visit

LD251243 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Brasilia September 25 TASS—TASS Correspondent Vladimir Golenkov reports:

The Soviet-Brazilian relations are based on the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, said Brazil's Foreign Minister Roberto Costa de Abreu Sodre. He gave an interview to the TASS correspondent in connection with an official visit to be paid to Brazil by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR.

The visit will be a new major milestone in our relations, the foreign minister underlined. It will enable the sides to get to know each other better and it will provide a unique opportunity to discuss questions most significant to both sides.

Brazil's government is considering with profound interest the possibility of concluding in the near future an agreement to scrap medium-and shorter-range missiles which in our nuclear age will be the first agreement on disarmament in the direct sense of this word. We believe that improvement of mutual understanding between the USSR and the USA testifies to a possibility of new important steps in disarmament provided the unity of actions undertaken at international forums on questions of disarmament and bilateral negotiations on the same topic.

The international conference on the relationship between disarmament and development, held in New York, the minister underlined, has showed the need of channelling the money, now used for the arms race, for socio-economic programmes. Developing countries would gain, in the first place, from that.

Touching upon the situation in Central America, Brazil's foreign minister underlined that political settlement in the region depends on implementation of the agreement which was signed at the meeting of the presidents of five Central American states in Guatemala. This document is of great political significance since it reaffirms the will and the striving of the countries of the region themselves for the quest for solving the conflict through negotiations. I am optimistic about prospects of political settlement of the crisis in Central America. Through participating in the international commission of control the Contadora Group member countries and the countries of the support group continue undertaking and the countries of the support group continue undertaking efforts aimed at resolving the crisis through peaceful means, as they did even at a time when a clash in Central America seemed inevitable because of growing tension there, said Brazil's foreign minister.

4,000 Contras Reportedly Desert This Year

LD270937 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Washington September 27 TASS—The Sunday edition of the *U.S. News and World Report* says with reference to "informed sources in the administration" that up to 4,000 men deserted Nicaraguan contra forces this year alone.

According to the journal, desertion among the contras, through whom the United States tries to overthrow the Sandinista Government of Nicaragua, particularly intensified following the signing of the Guatemala agreement (which is aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement in the region) by the presidents of five Latin American countries on August 7.

Castro on Nicaragua, U.S. 'Aggression'

LD241048 Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Havana September 24 TASS—The accords on ways to bring a durable and lasting peace in Central America are a real and objective opportunity to settle the

Central American conflict, Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic, told foreign journalists accredited in Cuba here.

The signing of the document, he said, became possible despite the United States' heavy pressure on some Central American states. The Cuban leader commended the Nicaraguan government's determination and concrete steps to fulfill the commitments assumed irrespective of the fact that Nicaragua is the victime of the dirty aggression on the part of the United States.

The implementation of the Guatemalan accords depends also on Washington, the Cuban leader said. Any U.S. actions aimed at thwarting them will become an open challenge to the Central and Latin American countries, the world public opinion, Fidel Castro stressed.

Political & Social

Gorbachev 'Resting'; Will Appear 'Soon'

LD280918 Paris Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 28 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Lionel Jospin, secretary general of the French Socialist Party, who returned from Moscow could not meet Mikhail Gorbachev although a meeting was scheduled. They told me he was resting, said Jospin. The Soviet leaders, however, are reported to have told Mr Jospin that Mikhail Gorbachev will soon be seen in public. [passage omitted]

Dissident Poet Expected To Leave for West

AU251934 Paris AFP in English 1921 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow, Sept 25 (AFP)—A dissident poet is to leave the Soviet Union for Austria on Sunday after serving a seven-year prison sentence, dissident sources said here Friday.

Viktor Nekipelov, who was sentenced in 1980 for "agitation and anti-Soviet propaganda" is expected to leave for Vienna with his wife Nina, his two children and his mother in law. It is believed he may settle in France or Switzerland.

Slyunkov Addresses Restructuring Seminar

LD121418 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 12 Sep 87

[Text] A conference-seminar of the secretaries and chiefs of economic departments of the central committees of the Communist parties of the union republics, kray, and oblast party committees and also the secretaries of the party committees at the ministries and departments, which discussed the tasks of the party committees in the fulfilment of the decisions of the June 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum on fundamental restructuring of economic management, took place 11-12 September in the CPSU Central Committee.

Participants in the work of the conference-seminar included: Comrade Slyunkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee; Comrades Batalin, Voronin, Kamentsev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; and the leaders of economic ministries and departments and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

The participants of the conference were addressed by Comrade Slyunkov, who delivered a report. The present-day situation in the economy has been analyzed in detail. The report emphasized that the most important economic and political task is to step up the pace of restructuring, the speediest possible introduction of the integral system of economic management and securing definite fulfilment of the 5-year plan.

The activities of the ministries and departments of party, local soviet, and local economic bodies toward the implementation of the immediate measures of the radical economic reform were discussed. Examined were the tasks of restructuring the style, forms, and methods of the work of party bodies in economic management, which proceed from the decision of the 1987 January and June plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. A wide exchange of experience from the work of party committees on restructuring economic management in regions and in industries took place.

Zaykov Attends Machine-Builders Day Meeting

LD252220 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Sep 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A festive assembly was held in Moscow today to mark Machine-Builder's Day, which will be celebrated on Sunday, 27 September. In the presidium were comrade Zaykov, leaders of ministries and departments, frontrankers in socialist competition, scientists, and representatives of the public. Comrade Stroganov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan delivered a report. It was noted at the assembly that during the current 5-year plan workers in the machine-building industry are to ensure modernization of production and to accelerate its growth tempo by 1-and-1/2 to 2 times. The industry's workers face the task of manufacturing plant of a new generation and of introducing progressive technologies. There was also a discussion on how to make fuller use of opportunities for raising labor productivity and accelerate production growth rates.

Solovev Attends Leningrad Ceremony

LD261221 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Excerpt] On the eve of the new educational year a Propaganda Workers Day ceremony was held in Leningrad for political education network workers. By tradition it began with the laying of flowers at the Smolnyy monument to the leader of October, and a visit to the Lenin memorial.

Comrade Solovev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, attended. [passage omitted]

RSFSR Supreme Soviet To Meet 29 Oct

LD251717 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decided that the sixth session of the republic's Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation will be convened on 29 October 1987 in the city of Moscow. It is intended to submit for the consideration of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session the following matters: the State Plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1988; progress in fulfilling the State Plan for the republic's economic and social development in 1987; the State

Budget of the RSFSR for 1988; and the implementation of the 1986 State Budget of the RSFSR and endorsement of the decrees of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Academicians Discuss Economic Restructuring

LD270925 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0915 GMT on 26 September carries a 45-minute "Political Conversations" program, devoted to social aspects of restructuring the running of the country's economy. The program is moderated by Candidate of History Vladimir Konyukhov, with the participation of Professor Vsevolodivich Kulikov, Dr of Economics, head of the Political Economy Department of the Academy of Social Sciences; Professor Rem Aleksandrovich Belousov, head of the Department of Socioeconomic Processes of the Academy of Social Sciences; and Professor (Yuriy Stepanovich Solnyushkov), of the Institute to Raise Qualifications in Industry.

The participants discuss the importance of social factors in accelerating the economy. They concur that Marx' dictum of "to each according to his work" really means "to each according to the results of his work." In the past the economic system has tended to encourage those producing average results. It is now time to introduce a system encouraging those producing the best results.

Many people are asking what are the guarantees that the new working methods will be effective. Kulikov comments:

"Some people, and this is a quite widespread point of view, are expecting some sort of mechanism which will virtually guarantee everything. They demand guarantees not from themselves but from someone else, from the Central Committee, from the laws, or from some sort of economic mechanism even though the main guarantees will depend on what is put into it, on how we behave, how we act. If we stand aside, as many are now doing, this is a guarantee that we shall achieve nothing. If we involve ourselves in this struggle, however, this reform will be the organized change-over from the old to the new. This is going on with great resistance. Let us say this straight out. Not just inertia but also opposition is being encountered. It is not because there are evil people among the directors or in the ministries. No, it is simply that people cannot think how to work in the new way."

They go on to discuss the need to set minimum living standards and to ensure that these are reached as quickly as possible, an individual apartment per family, for example.

Konyukhov says: "I would like you to focus your attention on a question which is asked quite often by listeners. It is grounded in the fact that in the past few years a large gap has arisen between the population's monetary incomes and money-backed demand on the one hand, and their material coverage, on the other hand. How quickly will the restructuring of the national economy allow this disporportion to be eliminated? Well, of course, you are hardly likely to find anyone who could give a specific period of, say, a year. But I think that your opinions on this question would be of interest to our listeners. This comes into the category of political economy, so over to you Vsevolod Vsevolodivich."

Kulikov says that the satisfaction of demand depends on the fulfillment of the planned economic acceleration. He goes on: "It is very difficult to name a precise period because, again, much depends on people's initiative. The position with regard to the market for goods for the population and services has always been acute, but in the past couple of years it has become even more acute in connection with the restrictions on the sales of alcoholic drinks. Trade turn-over has lost tens of billions of rubles, here, and something must be done to make up for this. Unfortunately, actions to make it up are going slowly.

"This is happening in different ways in different places. There are some republics and oblasts where difficulties have even arisen with the payment of wages because what is there to pay wages with—you need to sell something first. There were certain difficulties. But Ulyanovsk Oblast has set a good example. There were dynamic people there, and they began to look for ways to fulfill the retail plan and to balance the population's income and expenditure in the republic without alcoholic drinks, and they succeeded. Here is one example of what they are doing. It is now a very widespread practice to allocate a strip of land to build a small country cottage. Millions of people already have these and additional millions of people should receive these plots of land. Usually just the land is allocated and those who receive it have the hassle of finding materials to build a cottage. Usually, all sorts of operators take advantage of these difficulties and they are just speculators who rake in vast amounts of money, tens of billions of rubles, often from building material and transport misappropriated from the state.

"Ulyanovsk Oblast has a different approach. They supply a plot together with a complete cottage ready for occupation. There are over ten different types of cottage costing from R800 to R1,500."

Solnyushkov: "So at present many opportunities are not being used in places?"

Kulikov: "Services are a vast reserve. The services sector is lagging behind and, unfortunately, it is being restructured only very slowly."

The participants go on to agree that more should be done in the services sector. They note that many people claim not to know what is expected of them under restructuring; such people are recommended to read a series of articles on this due to appear in *Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta*.

Konyukhov: "To conclude our program, I would like to return to the question of prices. We shall be so bold as to say that this is probably one of the most topical questions

at the moment engendering rumors of every possible kind. I am well aware that here at this roundtable we have scientists and not representatives of the state prices committee. But, all the same, could you explain the main ideas behind the policy of price formation elaborated at the June Plenum in connection with restructuring in the management of the national economy."

Solnyushkov: "I do not wish to spread what are, so to speak, wild rumors of all kinds, but, according to one of them, in the very near future the prices of food are supposed to rise sharply and the price of manufactured goods will fall slightly. This is what is currently thought in everyday life."

Kulikov: "I can say that this is just a rumor, and I would like to say that in practice the question is still being worked out with regard to reforming prices. It has been announced that cardinal reforms of all forms of prices are to be reexamined, moreover, state purchase prices, wholesale and retail prices, the prices of construction and building projects, and so forth. What would I like to stress here? At the moment, the prices here are extremely distorted. In what way are they distorted? The present system of prices took shape in the main some 30 years ago, both with the retail price reform in 1947 and the wholesale price reform sometime in the Fifties, although there have been certain amendments. What has happened since that time? We are coming up against a persistent tendency, a growth in the production cost of all agricultural produce.

"On the one hand there has been a manifold rise in purchase prices, but all the same we have masses of kolkhozes and sovkhozes which make little profit or even a loss. There has also been a considerable growth in the monetary remuneration for kolkhozniks' labor, which is moreover guaranteed. This is one instance that must be taken into consideration and reflected upon somehow, and, in this connection, we are now having to pay out R73 billion in supplementary payment out of the state budget. This figure is astronomical. It indicates a tremendous distortion in all our commodity and money relations. On the other hand, the price of primary types of raw materials and fuel has risen. Again we have a constant growth in the cost of extraction and of capital investments, in the growth of capacities, in the coal, petroleum, and even gas industries. Transport costs have risen sharply."

Solnyushkov: "There is no striving to economize on these resources here."

Kulikov: "That's right. There is now a pressing need for objective adjustment of prices, and that includes adjustment upward and concerns procurement prices as well as wholesale prices. Of course there are still greater distortions in retail prices although that is a very acute political question, not just an economic question but a sociopolitical one as well, even primarily a sociopolitical question but it has also become pressing. How can it be resolved specifically, in the quantitative sense? That remains to be resolved. So there are no grounds for all the rumors."

Solnyushkov: "No grounds."

Kulikov: "And the matter will be open for nationwide discussion."

Belousov: "There is something that I would like to say, to stress at this point. What must I stress? The first thing is that these price changes will be made after discussion, nationwide discussion. The second thing is that, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev stressed in his address at the plenum we will not carry out price reforms at the expense of reducing the real income of the population. There will be a certain measure of compensation and even [word indistinct]."

Kulikov: "One can say that there are perhaps three basic points in this concept which was elaborated at the June plenum and, moreover, they are listed in the text. The first is the point about which Rem Aleksandrovich has just talked in detail, that is ensuring that prices reflect outlay more accurately. That is real outlay and, furthermore, not just individual outlay incurred at individual enterprises but outlay calculated on the basis of public standards. Secondly, there is the need for prices to reflect more accurately the quality and consumer attributes of a product. That too is a very great task and a very great problem. The third thing is indeed the great limiting factor which complicates the resolving of all these matters: that is how to resolve these matters in such a way as to avoid reducing the real income of our population.

"These then are the three coordinates within the bounds of which this problem must now be resolved."

Belousov: "It has to be added that in my opinion we political economists are at fault in that with us, in industry at least, the expenditure-driven principle of price formation is predominant.

"I brought with me especially a political economy textbook for this year, that is 1987. It says that prices for goods should be determined by social cost, that is socially necessary expenditure on producing them. Well then, let's say someone doesn't know what that means. He takes down the Soviet Encyclopaedic Dictionary and what does it say? As regards individual cost: the cost of an individual item is determined by the amount of labor expended on producing it. But what is socially necessary expenditure, i.e. the expenditure of work time according to which social cost is determined? It is the time required for the manufacture of an item given conditions which are average in society.

"So then, this in my opinion is where lies the very important reason for the expenditure-led principle coming into being here. The average case then is for someone

to take his approximate expenditure, compare it with that of his neighbor, add a certain percentage for profit, and he comes up with the price."

Kulikov: "So political economy is at fault here to some extent because hitherto...." [indistinct interruption]

"No that's not the point. We could argue forever on the formulas. But we have not defined any clear ways to ensure that our prices should reflect not the actual expenditure incurred at one enterprise or another, that they should not simply be fixed as a result of summing up this expenditure. When you have a market economy it is the market which determines the price just like a social norm, and nobody pays over the odds there and nobody will bother about such trivial reasons why they have paid more, nobody will bother with that. We have a planned system of price fixing. This presents problems of its own, as there will be for this social norm."

Solnyushkov: "One of them is price dictated by enterprise."

Belousov: "That is also one of the problems, when a consumer does not have sufficient possibilities and there is no mechanism worked out for influencing the producer on expenditure, on quality, and, in the final analysis, on price.

"So really, political economy does still have a lot to do. We must get away from expenditure-led price formation, expenditure-led in the sense that in fact it frequently reflects the sum of expenditure at individual enterprises."

Solnyushkov: "Any ones, that is the point."

Belousov: "Quite so, and as a result through the price we often encourage poor work, ineffective work, and we shift this on to society. These losses, inevitably, if they exist, occur not among a given labor collective, but are shifted and distributed to the whole of society."

Konyukhov winds up the program by wishing everyone all the best.

Central Committee Censures Irbit Gorkom
LD281316 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has adopted a decision on the results of considering letters from the city of Irbit, Sverdlovsk Oblast. The decision notes that inspection has revealed serious shortcomings in the work of the gorkom and the administration of Irbit motorcycle works. The enterprise has been failing to meet targets for a long time. The atmosphere in the collective and the party organization is not healthy. Violation of labor discipline and drunkenness, which has become widespread here, are not being combatted. The Irbit Gorkom is not providing leadership to primary party organizations in a satisfactory manner. Gorkom secretaries rarely visit production collectives and have a poor knowledge of public mood and needs.

The Sverdlovsk Obkom has failed to follow the instruction of the CPSU Central Committee that Sverdlovsk Obkom give practical help to Irbit Gorkom in the restructuring of its work in line with the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The CPSU Central Committee has drawn the attention of Sverdlovsk Obkom to its apparent lack of discipline in fulfilling the decision of the CPSU Central Committee on the article "How much should one take responsibility for?" [skolko brat na sebya] published in the newspaper *Pravda* on 20 April 1986 and obliged Sverdlovsk Obkom to undertake urgent measures to eliminate the existing shortcomings and to improve the atmosphere in Irbit Gorkom.

Family Planning Program in Tajikistan Viewed
LD231353 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 23 Sep 87

[Text] Dushanbe September 23 TASS — TASS correspondent Vladimir Zhukov reports:

Participants in a seminar on demographic issues which worked in the city of Ordhonikidzebad (Tajikistan) stated: The family planning programme drafted and practically tested by the public health ministry of this Central Asian republic is operating successfully.

The programme was prompted by a deteriorating demographic situation in Tajikistan. The national tradition prescribes local parents to have at least 8-10 children. In the past when low level of culture, lack of medical services and anti-sanitary conditions took lives of well-nigh half of children, this could be justified, but now the situation has drastically changed. In the years of Soviet power child mortality dropped many times (though it remains high so far as compared with the country-wide average). At the same time medics determined that frequent births (in 12-18 months) have a negative influence on women's health. Moreover, children are born weaker than ordinary ones.

The family planning programme is based on broad explanatory work of medics and representatives of the public among the population and publicity of scientifically substantiated norms and measures of childbirth control in every family. The Tajik mother and child protection institute set up in the city of Ordzhonikidzebad and its district (which were selected for the experiment) a network of well-equipped maternity welfare centres and posts. Well-trained specialists were sent there, and reference books and methods manuals were published.

The outcome was prompt. Seminar participants stated that even the first results of implementing the family planning programme were self-evident. Birth rate in the city and the district dropped. A decision was taken to spread broad explanatory work on family planning issues to the entire republic which is the USSR's leader in the childbirth rate.

Composers' Union Board Holds Plenum

PM280955 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "In Tune with the Time"]

[Text] Kemerovo, 24 Sep—Topical problems of the development of Soviet musical art are the subject of discussion by participants in a USSR Composers' Union Board plenum. It started its work in Kemerovo today. Reports were delivered by Yu. Saulskiy, RSFSR honored figure of art, and M. Tarakanov, doctor of art studies.

Today's state of the creative process is being examined at the plenum from positions of continuity and development of the best traditions of our own and the world's music. Among other sore spots in contemporary musical life, the participants are particularly alarmed by and concerned with questions of the union's attitude toward popular musical genres and the cultivation of aesthetic tastes among the millions-strong audience of young people.

Another topic of the debate speeches was the complex situation in the organization of concert and philharmonic activity, which is closely linked with the propagandization of the best examples of Soviet musical art.

A wide-ranging discussion of questions of self-management and further democratization in the Composers' Union itself is taking place. It was deemed necessary to start work on a draft of the union's new statute to take into account the fundamental changes in the country's life.

S.V. Renchis, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department, is taking part in the plenum's work.

Veteran Responds on Views of History

PM251539 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 22 Sep 87 p 6

[Reply by War and Labor Veteran V. Borisov to 4 July article "Must We Be Zombies?": "Because We Trusted the Motherland"; boldface passages as published]

[Text] Leningrad—I was a contemporary of Tukhachevskiy, Uborevich, and Yakir. The fate of those people was settled in my lifetime. I must express my opinion on the letters which have appeared in the press urging people not to focus attention on the shortcomings of the activity of the leaders of the past, not to touch on the mistakes of the past, and generally to leave well alone. The questions raised in such letters worry people of different ages primarily because of what I see as the irresponsibility in raising them. In historical polemics you have to be a maximalist, like my generation of the twenties.

Then, too, there were disputes, but disputes and differences of opinion were not feared. They began to be stifled later, and that cost us dear.

What we experienced in the thirties was the most difficult trial that has ever befallen us. I am talking not only about those who died but also about those who survived. When fine people who have done so much for the motherland die alongside you it is easy to crack up, to assume that this is how it has to be, and to lose faith in the thing we held most sacred.

I often hear it said: "You took part in the Great Patriotic War, you saw how the Soviet people, men and women, selflessly and at the risk of their lives fought and defeated fascism. But shortly before the war began our people were made to experience the greatest tragedy in their history—the death of poets, commanders, scientists, the most important specialists—and mass repressions. What helped the people summon up their strength and triumph?" Faith, trust! **The people had faith in their Motherland, the Revolution, October, and Lenin's ideal. The people could never have triumphed had the will to resist violence, cruelty, and lies not been alive in them.** The events of the Great Patriotic War cannot be understood by studying the history of those 1,418 days alone, but by studying it in the context of Russia's entire history.

Unfortunately, there are still people today who want whole chapters of our history to be "obliterated" and blurred in people's consciousness.

The most alarming thing is that they feel the support of the contemporaries of those events, the veterans.

The mistake made by those people is that they still equate Stalin with the motherland and socialism and for that reason any attempt today to understand what happened during those years and to assess those events appropriately is perceived by them almost as an attack on the sacred cause of building socialism in the USSR.

I also saw what happened in those years. Not only I but many veterans will say that Stalin's name must not be linked in any way with the triumphant advance of socialism. Socialism was created by the people, the whole country. Everything connected with the cult led to the undermining of faith in the justice of people's power and to servility and robbed people of their initiative. You have to pluck up courage and say to yourself that your life's path must not be linked with that name!

The more accurate our knowledge of the past, the more secure and correct our views and actions will be in the present and the more we can expect from the future. To learn nothing from the tragic examples of the past means to make the same mistakes and to swallow reassuring quotes and promises once more without actually doing anything.

Now that we have wiped the windows clean, opened them wide, and seen how many blank spots there are in our ancient and more recent history, we are obliged to give a truthful answer to the questions of millions of our compatriots.

Now that we have begun this work we must do it properly and see it through. We must not create our own blank spots because it is already clear how high the price of ignorance and silence is.

PRAVDA Reviews Contents of KOMMUNIST No 14

PM271819 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Journal's Latest Issue"]

[Text] The latest, 14th issue of the journal *Kommunist* has been published. It opens with the rubric "To Think and Work in the New Way." Experience of restructuring the soviets' work is illumined in the article "Clearer View of the City" by Riga Gorispolkom Chairman A.P. Rubiks.

In the article "Full Employment. How Do We Understand It?" V.G. Kostakov replies to the numerous readers' letters sent to the editorial office following the publication of his article "Employment: Shortage or Surplus?"

Willi Gerns, member of the Presidium and Secretariat of the German Communist Party Board, writes under the rubric "Toward the 70th Anniversary of Great October."

There is also a dialogue between Academician B.V. Raushenbakh and USSR Pilot-Cosmonaut Doctor of Technical Sciences K.P. Feoktistov on the results of the 30-year space era and the further prospects for space exploration.

The section "Debate and Discussion" includes the article "Legal Science and Practice Under Conditions of Restructuring."

The article "Accurate Picture of the World" by *Izvestiya* political observer S.N. Kondrashov expounds the author's views on the need for new approaches in the mass media's coverage of international problems.

Under the rubric "Everything in Man—Everything for Man" there is the material "Health Is the Paramount Asset of Life"—a selection of readers' opinions on the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers draft "Main Directions of the Development of the Population's Health Care and the Restructuring of USSR Health Care in the 12th 5-Year Plan and the Period Through the Year 2000."

Here, too, is an essay by Vyacheslav Shugayev on the Russian zealot Yu.K. Avdeyev, curator of the A.P. Chekhov Museum-Preserve at Melikhovo.

The material "Humanist Vector of Science" gives an account of the international congress on the logic, methodology, and philosophy of science, held in Moscow.

S.S. Dyachenko's article "Vavilov's Lessons" is pegged to the centenary of the birth of Academician N.I. Vavilov.

The editorial article "Collective Experience of Party Work" is carried under the rubric "In Socialist Countries: Experience, Achievements, Problems."

An article by N.V. Minayeva and V.D. Oskotskiy is devoted to the Battle of Borodino.

The new rubric "Our Synopses" includes material from the journal *Kommunist Vooruzhennykh Sil* on the democratization of army life.

BRIEFS

Aids Conference Underway

A scientific conference on AIDS is underway in the Soviet Far Eastern City of Vladivostok. Scientists and doctors from Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, and some other cities are discussing how to combat AIDS effectively. The disease has been quickly spreading all over the world and there is a need to find methods of protection against AIDS, preventive treatment, and diagnosis of the illness. Speakers have pointed to the relatively low number of AIDS cases in the USSR. Some 2 dozen Soviet and 100 foreign citizens have been registered as having been infected with the virus. Nevertheless, the danger that AIDS may spread remains and doctors are convinced that vigorous actions against the spread of the disease are essential precisely at this stage. [Text] *[Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 27 Sep LD]*

Economic

Commissions Discuss 1988 Draft Plan, Budget

LD261511 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 26 Sep 87

["What is New in Draft Plan and Budget for 1988"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Boris Prokhorov:

Eighteen preparatory commissions of both chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament) are currently discussing in the Kremlin this country's draft plan and budget for next year. More than 250 deputies as well as experts and other specialists are hammering out these documents for the next USSR Supreme Soviet session due to be held in October.

In the opinion of the participants in that work, the draft plan and budget seriously differ from the customary stereotypes of such documents of the past years. This is a consequence of a restructuring of the Soviet economy, which is now gaining in scope and depth.

Thus, for example, the number of production indices, which are envisaged in the draft plan for the economic and social development of the USSR for 1988 has been reduced by more than two thirds as compared with the plan for the current year. This means that centralized plan has become less rigid. Correspondingly the possibility is broadening for displaying the initiative "from the grassroots".

The plan for next year will for the first time include the category of state order—mandatory products to be put out by industrial plants, which are ordered and paid for by the state at tixed prices. In the manufacturing industry, the state order will account on an average for 50-70 percent of the volume of output. Mills and amalgamations will be entitled to sell the remaining products on agreement with the clients. This is for the first time that such a provision giving a broad scope to initiative is sealed in the draft state plan.

New financial relations between the state and the plants operating under new economic conditions are also for the first time reflected in the draft budget of the USSR for 1988. Thus, in particular, deductions to the budget from the profits of mills and factories are considerably reduced. For example, payments to the budget of the machine building plants will make next year only nearly 44 per cent of their expected profit, while the rest will be left at the disposal of the plants, the work collectives.

One can often hear among the preparatory commissions, which are working now on documents, that next year will be the first one of truly radical change in planning and economic management.

Voronin Interviewed on Wholesale Trade

PM251635 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Sep 87 Second Edition p 2

[Interview with L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gossnab, by own correspondent V. Parfenov: "The Restructuring of Supply. We Talk about Central Departments' Role and Tasks in the New Management Conditions"—date and place of interview not given; first paragraph is PRAVDA introduction; boldface as published]

[Text] On 1 January 1988 30 ministries and departments will begin to implement in practice the principle of full economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing. The new methods of work sharply raise the demands made on material and technical supply organs both at the center and at local level. In the package of CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions drawn up after the Central Committee June Plenum an extensive restructuring of material and technical supply is outlined. What is its essence? What innovations will it introduce in the national economy? These and other questions were raised in an interview by *Pravda* correspondent V. Parfenov with L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gossnab.

[Parfenov] Lev Alekseyevich, what is the most important and crucial question to be resolved in the course of the restructuring of material and technical supply in conditions of the mass introduction of self-financing at enterprises?

[Voronin] The switch of enterprises to full economic accountability and self-financing presupposes their extensive independence. This is the crux of the new economic mechanism. However, it will remain fruitless if the enterprise is not at the same time given the opportunity to acquire for the money it has earned the material resources which it requires for the production of goods, construction, reconstruction, and the solution of social questions.

The second condition of work in the new way is the sharply increased responsibility of enterprises for the end results of their work—output sales, that is. Whereas before marketing was essentially guaranteed by targets and delivery orders dictated from above, it now becomes directly dependent on consumers' orders, on concrete consumer demand.

The link between these two conditions is to be provided by **wholesale trade.** This means not only the abandonment of quotas in material and technical supply, but also a completely new type of economic relations between manufacturer and client.

[Parfenov] Some of our readers ask: Why is the process of the transition to wholesale trade drawn out over 5 years?

[Voronin] This is because it is planned to implement the restructuring of material and technical supply in close coordination and unity with the reform of planning, financial and credit relations, prices, and a consistent switch to the principles of full economic accountability and self-financing not just of the sectors of the material production sphere but also other sectors of the economy. The timetable for the completion of the restructuring of material and technical supply has been set with this in mind. It is envisaged that in 4-5 years' time the main form of material and technical supply will be wholesale trade.

[Parfenov] Some 10,000 enterprises, research institutes, and other organizations are operating outside the quota and limit system this year. What does the first experience of wholesale trade indicate?

[Voronin] It shows that the system of guarantees and the reduction of the interval between placing an order and obtaining the resources produce a considerable saving.

At the same time, this year's experience shows that it would be wrong to reduce the development of wholesale trade to the abolition of "rationing" in supply. It is no less important to apply economic regulators of consumption. A graphic example of this is provided by the enterprises of the Ministry of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, which are still operating on the basis of gross output indicators. As a result of the abolition of restrictions in the acquisition of resources, stocks at these enterprises have sharply increased. During the first 6 months of the year they exceeded the set norm by R90 million. The only explanation for this is the absence of restraining factors of an economic nature in the sphere of consumption. Therefore, until the new economic mechanism fully embraces all enterprises, it

will be necessary to monitor the validity of orders and the actual level of stocks. It is also necessary to learn to trade in means of production. I mean trade, rather than distribute resources according to the established and obsolete procedure. This applies not only to the USSR Gossnab organs. It is first and foremost the manufacturing plants which must learn the art of studying and forecasting demand, dynamically restructuring production in response to consumer demand, and independently adopting considered decisions on the basis of changes in the market situation.

[Parfenov] It is obvious that there will be a need to organize economic competition...

[Voronin] Indeed, competition for consumers, for the best satisfaction of their demands, for making this the law and supreme purpose of the activity of every enterprise, will force collectives to pull themselves together. At the moment, as is well known, the restructuring of ministries' organizational management structures is under way. Here it is important to prevent the monopolization of production by individual associations so as to avoid the possibility of manufacturers dictating to consumers.

[Parfenov] Lev Alekseyevich, what are the prospects for the practical development of wholesale trade?

[Voronin] The development of wholesale trade is to take place in two stages. The first stage will cover the years 1988-1990. It will be characterized by the fact that cost-cutting economic levers will not yet be operating at full capacity and state orders will account for a substantial part of enterprises' production programs. The share of wholesale trade in the total volume of output sales is to be increased to 60 percent during the first stage. As early as 1988 the volume of wholesale trade is to increase by 250 percent and total at least R35 billion. First and foremost, work carried out by means of the direct labor method is to be switched to wholesale trade. Priority will also be given to the free marketing of the material resources necessary for the production of consumer goods, repairs of household appliances, the provision of consumer services, and the development of cooperative and individual labor activity.

On the basis of the positive experience gained in the supply of construction organizations working under contract, it is planned within the next 2-3 years to abolish the quota system of supply at republic and union construction ministries. The timing of this measure is to be coordinated with the construction workers' switch to full economic accountability and self-financing. As early as 1988 Armenian and Estonian construction ministries are to be joined by construction organizations in Belorussia, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldavia, Tajikistan, and individual areas of the RSFSR in operating this system.

In order to test the mechanism of wholesale trade comprehensively, entire selected regions are being switched to this method. Estonia is to become such a region in 1988.

[Parfenov] What are the characteristic features of the second stage of the introduction of wholesale trade?

[Voronin] During the second stage—covering 1990-1992—when the new economic mechanism will have been introduced everywhere, wholesale trade will increase to 75-80 percent of total sales. Entire categories of goods will be switched to wholesale trade for sale to all consumers irrespective of their departmental affiliation.

In addition to the organization of wholesale trade via territorial organs of the USSR Gossnab, its development via other channels is also planned. Wholesale trade is to be further developed within the system of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Petroleum Products, and ministries' own-brand stores. Wholesale trade will also be organized by manufacturing plants on the basis of direct orders from consumers.

[Parfenov] Nonetheless, is it not possible to accelerate the switch to wholesale trade?

[Voronin] We believe that the process of the transition to wholesale trade could be considerably accelerated. With a view to this, the USSR Gossnab has authorized its territorial organs to independently extend the list of goods to be sold freely. The same right has been granted to ministries. However, by no means all of them have exercised this right. For instance, the USSR Ministry of the Light Industry distributes and sells tens of billions of rubles' worth of various kinds of raw materials. As in the past, the quota system of distribution is preserved here on the grounds of shortages. However, according to the most conservative estimates, is would be possible right now to release approximately R7 billion of raw materials for free sale.

In general, I must say that in the development of wholesale trade a great deal depends on ministries. Ultimately the scale of wholesale trade must become the most objective indicator of how a ministry discharges its main task—ensuring the fullest possible satisfaction of the needs of the national economy and the population.

[Parfenov] How are the functions of the USSR Gossnab, ministries, and enterprises changing with the switch to wholesale trade?

[Voronin] The centralized distribution system will undergo considerable changes. The apparatus of central supply organs will be cut back. As is known, the USSR Gossnab has just received from the USSR Gosplan a list of around 1,500 descriptions of output for distribution. Some of them are be to sold through wholesale trade, the others have been grouped together so as to avoid excessive detail in the allocation of resources. This will give enterprises greater independence in concretizing their range and delivery dates and also in choosing suppliers. They will also have more freedom in deciding where and how to use the resources they have obtained.

In order to simplify the material and technical supply procedure, ministries have been entrusted with the direct distribution of goods to the value of in excess of

R35 billion for consumption inside the sector. The number of plan documents for the organization of supply issued by USSR Gossnab organs to suppliers and consumers is being reduced by approximately a factor of three.

[Parfenov] How are ministries and enterprises reacting to the expansion of their independence in the sphere of supply?

[Voronin] It must be admitted that all these measures have been received by many enterprises and ministries without special enthusiasm. Unquestionably, it would be easier for them to follow the well trodden path. For one thing, it means less responsibility. For another, you can always plead that the mistake occurred "at the top."

[Parfenov] Lev Alekseyevich, signals warning that during the formulation of the plan for 1988 suppliers are, as in the past, dictating their will and including in orders only targets which they find advantageous have been received by *Pravda*.

[Voronin] Yes, we too have received such signals. We must, as a matter of urgency, elaborate a mechanism to protect the interests of consumers. The new edition of the Statute on Goods Deliveries which is currently being drafted by the USSR Gossnab will contain measures to ensure that the satisfaction of the demands of the consumer becomes an economic necessity for every enterprise.

[Parfenov] What innovations are being introduced in the work of the territorial organs of the USSR Gossnab? How can their interest in improving enterprises' work be stimulated?

[Voronin] In order to ensure that they bear the same economic responsibility as enterprises, the USSR Gossnab territorial organs are being switched to full economic accountability and self-financing in 1988. The interest of the personnel of these organs in ensuring the best possible supply conditions for consumers is being sharply increased. It is not just a question of meeting consumers' orders in full and on time, but also of improving the consumer properties of the goods. The basis of the relations between producers and suppliers will be the contract and material responsibility for its fulfillment.

The very nature of the activity of territorial organs will also change substantially. Their enterprises are being transformed from mere goods storage facilities into major production complexes for the preparation of goods for consumption. Within the current 5-year plan the volume of production services rendered to consumers is to be more than trebled. The network of outlets for the hire of instruments and equipment, including highway construction machines and machinery for implementing work using the direct labor method is to be expanded by 150 percent.

In order to overcome shortcomings in the organization of exchanges and sales by enterprises of goods for which they have no use, an extensive network of commission shops is to be set up. By the end of the 5-year plan their number will top 150.

The provision of commercial information services to consumers, supplying them with details about the technical parameters of specific goods, their spheres of application, and ways of acquiring them, is another new type of activity of our organizations which is being developed.

[Parfenov] One of the aims of the restructuring is to improve efficiency in the utilization of material resources and sharply reduce stocks of them in the national economy. What is being done to this effect?

[Voronin] The problem of stocks is one of the most acute problems we face. On the one hand it is unquestionable that they are necessary. Given the vast scale of our country and the high level of production specialization it would be absurd to assume that the smooth and steady functioning of the national economy can be ensured while acquiring resources "on the fly," so to speak. At the same time, it is true that unjustifiably big stocks represent losses of the worst kind. Hence it is important to strive for an optimum level of stocks and to prevent it from being exceeded.

As of 1 January this year, stocks of goods and material assets in our production sphere totaled around R300 billion. This is far too much. Therefore the restructuring of material and technical supply has been geared to improving the management of stocks and the consistent concentration of a substantial proportion of them in the statewide supply system.

An efficient stock control system using the most up-to-date computer equipment and normative methods of forming and managing stocks, which are already being applied in many sectors, is currently being elaborated at an accelerated rate. The free exchange of surpluses between enterprises will also improve the situation in this area substantially.

The 1986 results show that we are on the right road. For the first time in a long period the production growth rate was three times higher than the rate of increase in stocks. Overall, as early as the 12th 5-Year Plan, the turnover of circulating capital in the national economy will be speeded up by 5-7 days, which will make it possible to bring into circulation material resources totaling around R30 billion.

In conclusion, I would like to note that the restructuring of material and technical supply is a highly complex process. It depends on the solution of complex questions which are mostly new to everyone. However, it is a fact that this restructuring is gathering momentum and becoming irreversible. USSR Gossnab personnel and workers throughout the sphere of material and technical supply of the national economy are working hard to ensure that the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum are translated into practical actions.

Agricultural

Mid-September Weather, Crop Status Reviewed

PM280855 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Sep 87 p 2

["Weather and Crops" report by agrometeorologist N. Korenkova]

[Text] Cool, rainy weather is being recorded over a large part of the USSR's European territory. The mean air temperature for the 10-day period [presumably through 20 September] was 1-3 degrees below average in most regions. Harvesting conditions were extremely unfavorable in Belorussia, the Baltic, Northwest, Central, Volga-Vyatka, and Ural Regions, and the northern half of the Volga Region. Conditions for rooting of winter grain crops were favorable over most of the territory of the Northwest, North, Central, Volga-Vyatka, and Ural Regions and in the north of the Volga Region. There was not, however, enough warmth for plants to develop.

Conditions for the growth and development of winter grain crops were good in the Baltic republics, a large part of Belorussia and the Central Chernozem Region, the south of the Volga Region, and northern oblasts of the Ukraine. Some 25-30mm of productive moisture (35-45mm in the Baltic) was retained in topsoil. Tillering began in winter crops sown prior to 25 August. Crops sown later were in the shooting or third-leaf stage. They are basically in good shape.

Corn grain has reached full ripeness in Moldavia, the south of the Donets-Dnepr Region, Rostov Oblast, and the south of Voronezh Oblast. Corn is in the waxy ripeness stage over a large part of the Donets-Dnepr, Southwest, and Central Chernozem Regions.

Conditions for harvesting spring grain crops were unfavorable in the farming regions of Siberia and the north of Kazakhstan. They were good, on the other hand, for the growth and development of winter crops. In the main the topsoil retained 25-35mm of productive moisture.

Cotton boll growth virtually ceased. Slight boll growth occurred only in the southern oblasts of Central Asia, where nights were still warm. Roughly 9-11 bolls per plant had formed by 20 September. The last 10-day period saw cotton bolls continuing to open and harvesting under way.

Cyclone Imperils Central Volga Harvest

PM251019 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Sep 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Ordeal by Storm"]

[Text] Ulyanovsk, 22 Sep—the elements have struck another blow to the Central Volga region. The cyclone which spread yesterday evening over the area between Saratov and Penza hit Ulyanovsk and surrounding districts—mostly the areas along the banks of the Kuybyshev reservoir—in the form of a squall and torrential rain during the night of 22 September.

Seething torrents of water in the streets, uprooted trees in parks and public gardens, wooden buildings without roofs—that was the picture of the city early next morning after more than one-third of the normal monthly rain had fallen in just a few hours. The power supply network was damaged by winds gusting at up to 21 meters a second.

Workers of the Ulyanovsk Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee are having to deploy their forces on two fronts—the struggle against the consequences of the storm and the protection of the harvest against the bad weather. The harvest is in danger of being destroyed: Since mid-July it has poured with rain here. Now, to make matters worse, there has been the cyclone. Two-three times more rain fell in a single night in rural rayons than in Ulyanovsk. Seven hundred and fifty-six transformer substations were put out of action. Livestock units and grain threshing floors were left without power on 62 farms. The greatest damage was inflicted on the economy of the Pavlovskiy, Veshkaymskiy, Terengulskiy, and Nikolayevskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Associations.

Tribute must be paid to the inhabitants of the city and oblast. They are courageous people by nature and do not lose their presence of mind at times of difficulty. Even in those rayons affected by the cyclone the work of the grain harvesting and transporting production line has not stopped. After all, almost 80,000 hectares of grain, mainly hulled crops, were still in the fields. The harvested windrows are being raked together by hand and stacked on light tractor-drawn trailers. High-powered K-700 tractors are also being used to deliver strings of the trailers to the units where vitamin-enriched grass meal granules or meal are usually prepared. The crushers have now been removed on them, making it possible to thoroughly dry out the mass of grain and prevent the ears of grain from rotting. Then the combines join in to complete the difficult work.

It is only the rain-soaked potato and vegetable fields that rely on manual labor. That is why Ulyanovsk and the rayon centers have mobilized almost 30,000 people to help the countryside. Some are working quickly to eliminate the consequences of the bad weather, others are harvesting. Whereas the former are succeeding, the townsfolk who have taken to the potato fields with pitchforks are making slow progress. Has the role of material rewards been greatly undervalued, perhaps? In Surskiy Rayon, for example, for each quintal of potatoes dug from the mud in the rain people are paid, as a rule, R1 in cash and 10 kg of tubers as payment in kind. Is it common sense which dictates this "generosity"? What is the point in being stingy when it is a question of saving the crop? The forecasters are warning that the cyclone will be followed by a period of very cold weather bringing frosts, if not now then in the near future. However, no one in the oblast has dared to assume responsibility and ask the economic managers to revise

the harvesting pay rates upward, particularly for payment in kind. After all, the most important thing now is to ensure that nothing is left in the fields when the snow comes!

Papers Call For Urgent Help With Harvest

PM251344 [Editorial report] Moscow *Sovetskaya Rossiya* in Russian on 25 September 1987 in its Second Edition front-pages an unattributed appeal headed "Two Free Days Lie Ahead: They Must Be Used To Save the Crop," which reads:

"The main task is without delay to complete the harvesting of grain crops and corn, ensure the maximum rate of harvesting of potatoes, vegetables, and fruit, accelerate preparations for winter in livestock raising premises, and concentrate the necessary stocks of feed at the livestock units.

"The organizers of Saturday and Sunday mass excursions into the countryside must concentrate particular attention on the following types of work:

"In the Northern, Northwestern, Central, and Volga-Vyatka regions: the harvesting of potatoes and vegetables, flax pulling, and feed procurement;

"In the Volga, North Caucasus, and Central Chernozem Regions: the harvesting of corn for grain, the digging of beet, the clearing of straw from the fields, vegetable and fruit procurement, and the removal of the crop from the rice plantations;

"In the Urals, West Siberian, and East Siberian Regions and the Far East: the turning of grain crops in the windrows, threshing, and completing the vegetable and potato harvest.

"It is the duty of sovkhoz and kolkhoz leaders to create all the conditions to ensure shock work by every working person who turns out in the fields."

The paper also front-pages the following two reports under the general heading "Everyone Helping":

From V. Zlobin in Saratov:

"Because of the severe deterioration in the weather and the large quantity of vegetable produce that has not been brought in from the fields, last Friday, 18 September, a state of emergency was declared. Additional shock detachments were set up at industrial enterprises, construction sites, and educational institutions to speed up the harvesting and procurement of vegetables. In the oblast center, for instance, raykoms have formed composite communist detachments. On Saturday and Sunday 18,500 city dwellers worked in the fields on the surrounding farms.

"However, there were also party organizations which did not make much effort to deal with the emergency. In Oktyabrskiy Rayon in the oblast center, for instance, the secretaries of the party organizations of the Saratovtransstroy SU-107 trust, the Dorstroytrest SU-3, the printing combine, the Stroymash plant, and the polytechnical and medical institutes did not manage to mobilize people to work in the vegetable plantations."

From V. Drobotov in Volgograd:

"This fall the local leadership has at last had the sense to give city dwellers an interest in the vegetable harvest. The oblast agro-industrial committee advised vegetable farms to release vegetables as payment in kind for those of the vegetable growers' helpers who fulfill the established norm for harvesting produce. Payments in money have also been introduced. This attracted to the plantations and melon fields thousands of pensioners, owners of personal transport, and all who wanted to procure valuable produce to lay in."

Moscow *Krasnaya Zvezda* in Russian in its First Edition for the same date carries a report by Lieutenant Colonel S. Sergeyev headed "News from Kazakhstan," which reads, in part:

"Republican television and radio have presented an appeal from the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Council of Ministers to all working people, speaking of the need to make the greatest efforts to save the crop that has been grown. The situation in the fields of northern Kazakhstan remains extremely complex because of torrential rain and the approaching frosts. G. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, who made the appeal, called for all the available potential to be used to step up the pace of the harvesting.

"Among those who have responded actively to this appeal are servicemen from motorized subunits, who are giving assistance to the grain growers."

Potato Harvesting Pace 'Clearly Inadequate'

PM251311 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Sep 87 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the general heading: "Shortcomings in Vegetable Production"]

[Text] According to figures from the RSFSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, 750,000 hectares of potatoes have now been harvested. Around 45,000 hectares more are harvested each day. The pace of the potato harvest is clearly inadequate. Orenburg, Kurgan, and Bryansk Oblasts and the Bashkir ASSR are lagging behind in this work.

Supply of Machinery for Harvest Criticized

LD251712 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] A routine session of the All-Union Headquarters for Material-Technical Supply for Rural Areas has been held at the USSR Gossnab. It examined operational

issues concerning the supply of machinery, spare parts, and other resources for the harvest work, and also preparations for winter. It was noted that the difficult weather conditions during the harvest are being compounded by poor organization in a number of collectives at industrial enterprises.

In the country as a whole, 12 percent of combines were not made ready for the grain harvest, while in Turgay Oblast in Kazakhstan, 16 percent of them were in poor repair. More than 26,000 machines for corn harvesting have not been repaired, and quite a lot of combines for harvesting sugar beets and potatoes are standing idle. There are many unserviceable Kamaz vehicles on the country's farms, mostly in the Russian Federation.

The supply of technological equipment for potato, vegetable, and fruit storage received particularly acute scrutiny at the headquarters session. The heads of the ministries of the chemical and the automobile industries and other departments undermined production by units that are of key importance to storage for agricultural products.

Since the year began, thousands of tractors have failed to arrive at kolkhozes and sovkhozes from the Volgograd, Kharkov, Kishinev, and Onega works. Moreoever, many machines arrive at the farms with cabin seals broken, which worsens labor conditions for mechanizers. There were quite a few complaints directed at heads of works that supply equipment for feed harvesting and processing, and also for stockfarms.

The headquarters also noted the alarming situation concerning the supply of spare parts. For example, because of unrhythmical work by the Noginsk fuel apparatus works, tens of thousands of pieces of agricultural machinery are standing idle at kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The most frequent complaints by the all-union headquarters have been against Vasiliy Ivanovich Chernov, deputy minister of agricultural and tractor machine building. The All-Union Headquarters has also addressed a request to the leadership of the Ministry of Railways for the supply of cars to be speeded up for the dispatch of completed products from the Neftekamsk and Saransk dump truck works, the Kharkov tractor works, and other machine building enterprises.

Zaykov, Nikonov Visit Moscow Oblast

PM271841 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Reliable Equipment for Reclamation"]

[Text] On 23 September L.N. Zaykov and V.P. Nikonov, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the Yakhroma Floodplain in Moscow Oblast's Dmitrovskiy Rayon. They were interested in the modernization and mechanization of construction and repair work on reclaimed land and in the progress of harvest work and viewed an exhibition of models of machines and mechanisms.

The Yakhroma Floodplain is Moscow Oblast's major truck garden. It produces approximately 100,000 tonnes of vegetables and a lot of other agricultural products. These lands were reclaimed in the late fifties and produced a high return. Recently, however, their reclamation systems have become obsolete and require modernization.

Work is now being done to restore fertility. While inspecting the floodplain and talking with leaders of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and the machine-building complex, the desire was expressed to accelerate this work and ensure high quality and modern technical standards.

It was pointed out that many problems have still not been resolved in the construction of drainage systems. Heavy soils, for example, which make up approximately 40 percent of the country's soils, experience frequent soakings and, thus, harvest losses. The speediest resolution of these questions is assuming special significance now, under conditions of a further increase in the volumes of construction and modernization of irrigated and drained land in the country. Reclamation workers have been entrusted with creating reliable drainage systems and guaranteeing high harvests under any weather conditions.

It is no less important, it was emphasized, to maintain in good working order the reclamation systems already in use. A special role here belongs to equipment for the repair and care of channels and installations and their maintenance in good working order. Taking into account the great shortage of these machines, it was suggested that measures be taken to provide reclamation organizations with them in the very near future.

The USSR Ministries of Construction, Road, and Municipal Machine Building, of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, and of the Electrical Equipment Industry are entrusted, jointly with the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, with elaborating a program to fully equip reclamation organizations, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes with the necessary equipment to care for reclamation systems, construct drainage, carry out deep soil loosening, and gather woody vegetation with its subsequent utilization.

Also on the trip were V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee; I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Machine-Building Bureau; senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, leaders of Moscow Oblast, and USSR ministers.

Vorotnikov Visits Pskov Oblast
PM271845 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit to Pskov Oblast"]

[Text] Ways to accelerate the gathering of the harvest and carefully prepare for work under winter conditions were at the center of attention in meetings and talks between V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, and Pskov Oblast working people. He was there 22-23 September and visited kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and industrial enterprises.

It was emphasized that the successful resolution of the food problem is largely being determined by the results of the current agricultural year. The harvest is being gathered in the oblast's fields under complex weather conditions and has dragged on too long. However, many party committees and soviet and economic organs do not always properly assess the acuteness of the situation or take all the necessary measures for the speediest completion of fall field work and the preparation of livestock raising for wintering. The result of this is that the harvest of grain, industrial, and feed crops, vegetables, and potatoes has not been gathered over considerable areas in a whole number of rayons. Little coarse and succulent feed has been procured. There is tardiness in replenishing state resources and providing the population with fruit and vegetable products and potatoes.

When visiting the "Krasnaya Polyana" Kolkhoz in Novosokolnicheskiy Rayon and other farms, V.I. Vorotnikov paid special attention to the need to complete harvesting in the very near future. For this it is necessary to utilize all the existing potential and experience of progressive farms, teams, and links which have taken into account all the special features of the present very difficult harvest right down to the smallest detail. On the "Krasnaya Polyana" Kolkhoz, for example, grain that is too damp is at once dispatched to the fully mechanized drying and grading complex manufactured to drawings by machine operator A.V. Sirotin. All the mechanisms on that complex are controlled by one person, and the grain emerges as high-quality grain after being processed on the lines.

The chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers showed detailed interest in the introduction of economic management methods on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and in the specific results of the application of progressive techniques for cultivating various agricultural crops and progressive methods of labor organization and remuneration. A high assessment was given to the work of the intensive labor collective headed by V.S. Mironov, machine operator on the "Sebezhskiy" Sovkhoz. Output per worker in that collective is five times higher than the average oblast indicator.

In conversations with kolkhoz and sovkhoz stockraising workers and specialists attention was drawn to the extremely low productivity of livestock and poultry and to the unsatisfactory veterinary work. Many livestock unit collectives are greatly in debt to the oblast population. They fail to fulfill plans for production and sales of output.

Inadequate use is being made of the huge potential of enterprise subsidiary plots and private subsidiary plots in supplementing food resources. Few cows, hogs, or sheep are kept on the homesteads of the rural population. Haymaking plots are not allocated in full measure to owners of livestock. People who wish to fatten livestock experience great difficulties in obtaining young animals.

During his visit to the "Belorusskiy" Sovkhoz V.I. Vorotnikov showed detailed interest in the working and living conditions of rural workers. These questions are being resolved comprehensively here, and this approach is yielding tangible results. It was emphasized that concern for people must be at the forefront in the activities of party, soviet, and economic organs.

The full satisfaction of the population's demand for consumer goods was discussed in conversations with workers, specialists, and leaders of the branch of Leningrad's Volodarskiy Sewn Goods Association. By utilizing all work reserves under the new conditions of management, the collective of that enterprise regularly renews the range of products with due regard to the public demand.

While visiting rural and urban trade enterprises, V.I. Vorotnikov drew attention to the need to further improve services for the population and expand trade, particularly trade in agricultural products.

Talks were held with members of the obkom and the oblispolkom and with leaders of oblast organizations, at which the work on accelerating implementation of the Food Program was comprehensively analyzed. Ways were outlined to resolve the urgent and long-term tasks of increasing the effectiveness of the funds invested in transforming the Non-Chernozem Zone.

V.I. Vorotnikov laid flowers at the monument in honor of the Soviet Army's creation.

V.I. Vorotnikov was accompanied on his tour of the oblast by Obkom First Secretary Yu.N. Pogorelov and Oblispolkom Chairman V.N. Pushkarev.

Preparation for Next Year's Harvest Urged
PM280901 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 87 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Harvest 87" rubric: "Care for the Next Harvest"]

[Text] The appalling fall weather is mercilessly robbing the crop farmers of time. The situation in the countryside is difficult but the grain growers' unwritten law is immutable: While thinking about the present crop do not put off concern for the next harvest.

Much time has already been lost because of the bad weather, but also sometimes because of disorganization and slackness. By 21 September only three-fourths of the planned area of winter grain crops had been sown across the country. Many farms and even whole regions have fallen noticeably behind the optimum schedule. The fall plowing picture is even more alarming. Only 34 percent of the fields are prepared for the spring. Specialists of farms, rayon agro-industrial associations, and all agro-industrial organs must be well aware of the results which passivity, an inability to organize work, and uncertainty in the face of complex conditions can have. The situation requires the mobilization and precise distribution of all manpower.

There have been quite a few examples of people not yielding to the pressure of the bad weather. The machine operators of the "Nelkhayskiy" Sovkhoz in Irkutsk Oblast have made skillful use of their technical facilities. Seeing that the use of high-powered tractors was producing little return, they assigned them to a special detachment. While the harvest is taking its course, the Kirov tractors have been released for fall plowing. The detachment's members are not waiting for the fields to be free for them. They are making their own drag harrows, clearing the straw from the stubble fields, and making their own work front.

In the present situation the experience of the best workers could be of great help. But many people are in no hurry to take advantage of it. In Irkutsk Oblast some are showing no particular interest in the skillful work of others in their oblast. Meanwhile, the preparation of the fields for spring is not going well: Only 40 percent of the fall plowing has been done. Rural leaders often regard this important matter as of secondary importance, one which they feel can be delayed.

It must be said that the Siberians are in no hurry to deal with the next crop. The fields are being prepared for spring very slowly in Chita Oblast and Buryat and Tuva ASSR's. Workers there are often in the habit of blaming everything on "objective" factors. They put the fall plowing backlog down to the harvest delay: The fields are not free, they say. But roughly the same picture could have been seen in past years which presented farmers with far fewer difficulties. Then, too, quite a few fields had not been harvested when the snow fell and vast areas of plowland remained unworked right through till spring. Thus it is not due to the weather alone.

The struggle for the next crop must begin now. It is important for the Siberians to overcome their uncertainty. There must be no delay in allocating the necessary equipment, organizing multishift use of it, and providing effective moral and material incentives to those taking part in the work. It is time for economic leaders to learn how to carry out a full campaign of field work even in a short fall and how to steal a march on the cold weather.

Crop farmers must not forget either about spring field fertility. An unsuitable working practice has become established in some places: They plow the soil but do not apply fertilizers. The untreated soil will not provide a satisfactory harvest next year. No matter how difficult things are now it is important to observe all the agrotechnical requirements during the fall plowing. The next harvest will be particularly responsive to organic fertilizers. Where there is too much acidity in the soil true farmers apply lime. This measure is extremely necessary in the RSFSR's Non-Chernozem Zone above all. The whole range of means which country people have at their disposal must now be used to increase the potential of the spring fields. Nor must there be any delay with the preparation of sowing material, the repair of equipment, and other work.

This year's harvest is giving way to the next. The crop farmer cannot put these matters off till tomorrow. They must be dealt with today.

Economist Urges Flexibility in Farm Targets

PM251045 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Ye. Stolbunov, scientific associate at the West Siberian Branch of the Scientific Research Institute of Labor, by own correspondent A. Bekker: "Normatives Are Not Curbs. How To Eliminate Distortions in Planning Agricultural Production"—date and place unspecified]

[Text] The "Morskoy" Sovkhoz is today one of the front-ranking farms in Novosibirsk Oblast. It became thus largely thanks to experimenting with the introduction of the collective contract.

Over the past 3 years output and labor productivity have exceeded the growth rates planned for the 5-year plan by a factor of three or four. Whereas in 1980 the sovkhoz owed the Gosbank R735,000, in 1986 it earned R1.8 million in profit. The level of profitability has reached 48 percent. Having paid off its debts, "Morskoy" has been operating for 2 years now essentially on a self-financing basis.

[Bekker] The essence of the fundamental restructuring of economic management, as defined by the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, is a transition to management of and through interests. This is linked with encouraging people's activeness. To what extent does the experiment at "Morskoy"—where you are the scientific leader—confirm this idea? [Bekker ends]

This question kicked off the talk between our correspondent A. Bekker and Ye. Stolbunov, scientific associate at the West Siberia Branch of the Scientific Research Institute of Labor.

[Stolbunov] The "Morskoy" experience convinces us yet again that interest is a great force and that contracts based on economic accountability [khozraschet] can do everything in terms of specifics and nothing in terms of generalities.

[Bekker] That is? Please explain.

[Stolbunov] Given the combination of the necessary conditions, with the help of economic accountability individual links, shops, or enterprises can, of course, work wonders. But it is not possible to achieve a fundamental improvement in affairs in the agro-industrial sector as a whole through this alone. To do so we need to change the existing economic mechanism... For instance, I am convinced that in 2 or 3 years' time the economy at "Morskoy" will again be undermined by the practice of planning "on the basis of what has been achieved."

[Bekker] But surely so-called normative planning has now been introduced?

[Stolbunov] Yes, since this January. But you should have seen how this year's plans compared...

Strictly speaking, under the methods adopted by the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, the Gosplan, the State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, and the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences farms can only have imposed on them from above purchases of agricultural products, wages funds, and the volumes of material and technical resources and capital investment calculated according to normatives. But oblast agro-industrial committees still take liberties, "correct" sowing figures, take us to task about cattle numbers, and alter output delivery figures.

But the main point is that normatives are just for show. Take the handbook and open the section on purchase calculation options—table three. Have a look at option three, for instance. According to the handbook, a rayon which has utilized its potential to the tune of 80.6 percent will have its plan set at 83.1 percent of the normative—that is, 2.5 percent more than what was "achieved." But another rayon that has made an effort and utilized its resources to the tune of 112.9 percent will receive a target of 111.1 percent of the normative—or just 1.8 percent below what was "achieved." You see what sort of calculation this is: Poor performers only have to add a trivial amount while strong performers have their achievements virtually turned into the plan. Those who succeed are burdened and punished for their industriousness.

This is not emotion. After all, according to the handbook wages funds are established by taking an average of the actual level over the last 3 years. That is, those who have produced little but "consumed" a lot again get the benefit. Whereas the industrious lose out.

After comparing many sovkhozes in Novosibirsk Oblast, I chose two: "Mayak" and "Chanovskiy," which indeed operate under equal conditions. What has happened? The former produced more than R3 million in profit in the 10th 5-Year Plan while the latter turned in a loss of around R3 million. But the average earnings of workers on the two sovkhozes turned out to be identical. Out of each R100 of gross output wages accounted for R37.9 on the front-ranking sovkhoz and R49.6 on the loss-maker. This trend has continued in the 11th 5-Year Plan. What is the point of working in a shock fashion? Everyone has long since realized this. Now, I hope, it is clear to you why there are few "Mayaks" and many "Chanovskiys."

It was thought that normative planning would eradicate this distortion: Everyone would be paid on the fair basis of what they had earned. But, as we can see, there is not so much as a trace of a normative approach in the normatives that were adopted. Pseudoscientific calculations are a screen hiding the notorious planning system based on "what has been achieved"—the system which led us to stagnation.

[Bekker] Has fear not played its part? At the Novosibirsk Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee I saw the rayon economists defending their annual industrial finance plans. I remember their confusion. Calculating normative purchases of agricultural produce (on the basis of the new methods, of course) produced, in their view, incredible distortions: Strong farms had to be set plans lower than what they had achieved, while the reverse was true for weak farms—their plans had to be increased on the basis of the resource potential actually at their disposal. A. Borodina, an economist at the Iskitimskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association, said: "Our 'Svetlyy' Sovkhoz is a perennial loss-maker. But what are we supposed to say to the director: Fulfill this honest and fair increased plan with your available capacity. He cannot cope with the current plan." Poor farms cannot be turned round in 1 or 2 years. What about those dragging a burden, should we now lighten their load?

[Stolbunov] Things are not that bad... Why not change the procedure for concluding output delivery contracts? Suppose you are currently only able to fulfill 75 percent of the purchase normative. Go ahead and conclude a contract for that amount. But be aware that your wages fund will be cut back correspondingly. If you are able to produce output at 120 percent of the normative, please obtain a wages fund for the same amount. In the future, those farms that provide high-quality output at lower prices—and at times they may have to offer reductions—will receive most-favored status when concluding contracts. Let there be real economic competition. Everyone will conclude feasible "contracts." A leader of an enterprise able to exceed the normative will not refuse to do so. He currently conceals reserves and holds back growth rates merely because he knows that he will have imposed on him a plan based on "what has been achieved" while wage funds remain static. He will be publicly upbraided for producing only a small amount of growth. Yet "weak" enterprises are recognized as competition winners, even though they have not even reached the normative. One cannot imagine a worse incentive for hard work.

[Bekker] I want to return to where we started. The methods that have been adopted are crude and inaccurate, you say. Clearly the problem is that in developing these methods the experience of, say, Lithuania or Estonia, where normative planning has been used successfully for many years, has gone by the board.

[Stolbunov] I am convinced that even if we now had good methods and used them properly that alone would not be enough to ensure the normal working of the economic mechanism. It is supposed rather than actual production conditions that are taken into account during planning. But real people work under specific conditions. If these do not coincide with the plan conditions, then the principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his labor" does not apply. Consequently, the human factor fails to operate. For it to work we must separate those things that depend on human abilities from those that people are unable to change. We have so far been unable to do this because economically accountable contracts are not working and the economic mechanism is not working as it should.

[Bekker] I would like you to dwell on the proposed system of contracts. As is clear from the decisions of the June (1987) Plenum, particular importance is attached to them. But what are farms that are still unable to meet normative targets supposed to do? Workers who lose wages will go elsewhere.

[Stolbunov] We are tackling a major job, and it requires definite firmness. I recall that Lenin wrote: "...manage without the slightest hesitation, manage more firmly than the capitalists managed before you. Otherwise you will not succeed." But this firmness must not consist of defending one's own arbitrary decisions, in administration by decree, or in exercising one's vocal cords. Firmness means normative planning and incentives, with no deviations—people must be paid strictly according to their work. That is fundamental. The second thing is that weak sovkhozes must be given access to commercial credit for a period in order to get back on their feet. The third point: Collectives must choose leaders capable of boosting business. I am sure that the country has not run out of people with bright ideas. There are more than enough examples of intelligent leaders turning farms into front-rankers in the space of 2-3 years.

In my view, since we are unable to foresee all production conditions and factors—particularly weather conditions in crop farming—at the planning stage, we obviously cannot do without normative regulation of the set plan on the basis of actual conditions. It is from actual conditions that assessments must be made and incentives provided for workers and collectives on the basis of actual results.

[Bekker] What does all this look like in practice?

[Stolbunov] Suppose that a grain team collective has been set a normative yield of 25 quintals per hectare. It is allocated a certain amount of mineral fertilizer and certain types of equipment. During the cultivation process the team finds itself short of several tonnes of fertilizer, or it is delivered after the sowing. A quintal of fertilizer—and this has been quite clearly established—ensures a definite amount of extra yield. Surely it would be fair to reduce the plan figure correspondingly? And vice versa... Thus—things should be done strictly according to the normative on the basis of how much certain factors reduce yields. In this instance a resourceful economic manager will know that if additional fertilizer and equipment is allocated he will have his plan increased too. What about droughts? Under our conditions just a single day of hot dry winds can cost 108 kg of yield per hectare. That is why I believe that the normative regulation of plan indicators on the basis of actual production conditions must be an obligatory element in the economic accountability mechanism. This also, as you can see, does not contradict normative planning, but strengthens it, making it more concrete and trustworthy.

[Bekker] That is putting yourself in the firing line. You will be accused of pushing the principle of "downgrading" plans.

[Stolbunov] Some economists will be horrified, of course. For "regulation" they read "downgrading," which is rightly assailed in the press.

But the proposed normative regulation of set plans on the basis of objective production conditions has nothing to do with the notorious idea of downgrading. On the basis of "realistic" downgrading a "captain" of a sector, for instance, can with a stroke of the pen turn a friend who is a mediocre enterprise leader into a front-ranker. That will not work under normative regulation—then we will clearly see who is who.

Finally, in order to make the principle of "payment according to work" a reality, normative incentives must be provided to labor collectives for their end results. To this end it will be enough to compare the results obtained with the regulated normative volume of production, expenditure, and profit and to assess the collectives and allocate the relevant material rewards on the basis of that comparison.

[Bekker] You have not dispelled all doubts. In regulating plans at the year's end—on the basis of prevailing conditions—will we not disrupt output deliveries to the state? Things are not the same as the Kuban everywhere, where not a year goes by without a drought or some other disaster. Add to that the cost of material and technical supply. Plans will have to be reduced all the time. Agricultural workers, I grant you, will earn their wages, but the country... has to look out for its own interests...

[Stolbunov] There is never "bad weather" everywhere. Some places are better or worse than others. This means that some people's normative purchase plans will be higher and others will be lower. But this will make everyone work more intensively and obtain more output, if, of course, they want to earn more rather than win a lottery.

This sort of economic mechanism makes for flexibility and adaptability in channeling capital investment and funds. The transfer of resources will not influence the assessment of enterprises' activity and incentives nor, I think, harm the interests of people engaged in production. At any rate it will not reduce their activeness. An

unfulfillable plan is so disorganizing that collectives do not even do what they are able to. A reduced plan is no less harmful since it dampens people's enthusiasm and corrupts them with easy earnings.

On three occasions over the last 30 years I have checked the elements of the proposed mechanism in the field, as they say. I introduced a nonregulated link system ..: machine operator links at an experimental station at the end of the fifties and subsequently at the "Kiyalinskiy" Sovkhoz. In the mid-sixties a whole rayon—Bishkulskiy Rayon, also in Kazakhstan—was working on the basis of economic accountability. You already know about the "Morskoy" Sovkhoz. So, even though it has only been partially tested as a result of various bans and limitations, the mechanism has produced considerable increases in labor productivity and wage rates, reduced prime costs, and boosted profitability.

[Bekker] But perhaps all we need is flexible price formation and then "corrections" to plans on the basis of actual production conditions would be unnecessary.

[Stolbunov] In our economy prices are also a plan normative. Since this is the case, prices too must change and be flexible. For instance, for many years economic managers in Novosibirsk Oblast claimed that the price of vegetables was low and production was unprofitable. But over the past 2 years, having organized its work, "Morskoy" Sovkhoz has ensured a 90-percent profitability level for vegetable farming. Should such prices last forever, one wonders? If not they must be changed. On what basis? On the basis of yield normatives according to conditions, expenditure, and so forth.

In short, I see no contradictions in this area which would prevent the normative method of planning involving the regulation of plans on the basis of specific production conditions and factors from being established in economic management practice. The point of this work is to harmoniously combine the interests of people, collectives, and society and make full use of the potential of the socialist method of production.

Media Report 23-24 Sep Developments

LD250100 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 23-24 September. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

23 September

Harvesting continues in unceasing rain in Kurgan Oblast. About 450,000 hectares of grain crops remain to be threshed. Corn for silage has not been completely harvested. All the adult population has been called out to save the harvest. Things are particularly tense in the potato fields, where about half the area has been harvested. (0204)

The final 100,000 hectares of grain are being harvested in the Omsk Pri-Irtyshye region. (0204)

In The RSFSR 52.5 million hectares of grain had been threshed by 20 September; one fifth of the crops remain to be harvested. In the past 7 days, less than 3.5 million hectares of cereal were threshed, and the figure would have been less had it not been for the help of town dwellers. Most grain remains unharvested in the central oblasts, where more than 1 million hectares remain; in the Volga zone, where more than 1 million hectares remain; in the Urals, where more than 2 million hectares remain; and in western and eastern Siberia. Over half of the potatoes have been picked on average in the RSFSR. In Bryansk Oblast one third of the potatoes have been picked and in Smolensk Oblast 29 percent have been picked. Of the 22 million hectares set aside for winter crops, 17 million hectares have been sown. (0330)

Ploughing has been carried out on 5 million hectares in Kazakhstan. That is one quarter of the area to be plowed this autumn. This year 2.4 million hectares have been earmarked for autumn sowing in the republic and winter crop sowing has already been completed on 1.5 million hectares. (0600)

In Vinnitsa Oblast 1.2 million tonnes of grain have been delivered to elevators and procurement points. This fulfills this year's plan. (0800)

Tula farm workers have delivered 700,000 tonnes of grain to state granaries, overfulfilling the plan by more than 1 and 1/2 times. (1000)

Grain threshing began today on the 2 millionth hectare in Krasnoyarsk Kray. (1100)

The harvest is taking place in difficult weather conditions in Altay Kray. More than 1 million tonnes of bread grain have been stored in granaries. Altay farms have pledged to produce 3.16 million tons of bread grain. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1200)

Grain harvesting is difficult in Kurgan Oblast. The plants, beaten down by rain and germinating, have to be literally torn from the ground. Where machinery does not cop, it is done manually. Thousands of residents of settlements and towns have gone into the fields in an attempt to save the crop. The harvested grain lies over acreage exceeding 100,000 hectares. More than 400,000 hectares remain to be harvested. No one can remember harvesting conditions this bad. It has rained daily since September began. Since then, three monthly rainfall records have been broken in the oblast. A hot and dry summer sped up grain ripening so agricultural scientists were not able to correctly determine the starting date for harvesting. Wishing to obtain dry seeds as soon as possible, they made another omission and let themselves get carried away with the harvesting. As a result, ripe grain has germinated quickly in wet fields. The losses are enormous. The grain harvested is good only for feed crops. (1300)

24 September

Fourteen rayons in Altay Kray are now selling grain above the plan. In all, 2.655 million tonnes of grain have been delivered since the harvest began. Over 70 percent of wheat is of the strong variety. (0001)

This year 555,000 tonnes of vegetables will be harvested in Donetsk Oblast, but so far half remain unharvested. Helping out are 16,000 people from the towns. Frosts are complicating the situation; tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant may be lost.

As much is possible is being sold at markets before the frost sets in. The onion harvest amounts to 17,000 tonnes more than planned, so there are problems disposing of the surplus lying in the fields. Mass harvesting of corn is proceeding. This year a total of 760,000 tonnes of grain will be sold to the state. Winter crop sowing is almost complete. (1300)

Semipalatinsk Oblast in Kazakhstan has delivered more than 432,000 tonnes of grain. (Moscow Television service in Russian, 1430)

The harvesting in Ulyanovsk Oblast continued today in practically all fields. Many hundreds of town-dwellers took part in it, and harvested potatoes on 1,000 hectares in 1 day. Work continues in the corn fields. Now 69 percent of that crop has been harvested. So the good weather today was fully used. (Moscow Television Service in Russian, 1700)

Scientific

'Progress-32', 'Mir' Dock in Orbit

LD260240 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0215 GMT 26 Sep 87

["Docking in Orbit—A TASS Statement"—TASS headline]

[Text] On 26 September, at 0508 Moscow time, the "Progress-32" freight craft docked with the "Mir" manned complex.

The mutual search, approach, mooring, and docking were carried out with the help of onboard automation. These processes were controlled by the Flight Control Center in conjunction with the ground based command and measuring complex, and by Cosmonauts Romanenko and Aleksandrov.

The "Progress-32" was docked with the "Mir" complex from alongside the "Kvant" module. Fuel for the station's unified motor unit, food, water, equipment, other apparatus, and letters, were delivered.

According to telemetric information and crew reports, the onboard systems of the "Mir" manned complex are functioning normally.

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov are feeling fine.

'Biological' Satellite To Launch Late Sep

LD241112 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 24 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—Specialists who had been preparing experiments to be carried out on board a Soviet biological satellite left for a space launch site.

The launch is scheduled for late September. Two out of fifty monkeys which underwent special training for one year will make the orbital flight.

This will be the 8th specialized spacecraft envisaged by a medico-biological programme with the use of Cosmos satellites. Experiments are growing in complexity with each launch.

A lengthy (14 days) and complex programme is envisaged for the forthcoming mission. The monkeys, rhesus macaques named Drema and Erosha, will be seated in special capsules of the satellite fitted out with all necessary life-support and operation equipment.

They are to carry out rather complicated functions: to press knobs in response to various signals flashing out on the console in front of them. Implanted sensors will help obtain information on the effect of zero-gravity.

In the opinion of Academician Oleg Gazenko, who is in charge of the research programme, the experimental data accumulated with each flight will help scientists come closer to the solution of the problem of controlling the body's adaptation to weightlessness.

"This is required for future, much longer manned missions," he said.

Experiments conducted on board Soviet biological satellites are an example of extensive international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of outer space. About fifty research institutions from socialist countries, the United States, France and the European Space Agency are involved in the programme.

Space Experiment Prospects Outlined

LD251507 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—In the near future the Soviet Union will stage a comprehensive experiment in the field of solar-terrestrial physics involving studies of solar wind and the earth's megnetosphere and ionosphere. Working together with Soviet scientists on this project, called "interbol", are specialists from Hungary, Bulgaria, the GDR, Cuba, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia as well as France, Sweden and Canada.

In this experiment it is intended to use a system of two Soviet satellites of the "Prognoz" type each of which will have a Czechoslovak-made sub-satellite (auxilliary satellite). A TASS correspondent learned this at Glavkosmos, the Soviet chief administration for the development and use of space engineering fro the economy and research.

Soviet scientists have planned also an experiment to study the earth's magnetosphere from board an automatic general purpose orbital station by means of very low-frequency waves. Until now ground-based equipment was used to excite such waves in the magnetosphere.

Scientists from Hungary, the GDR, Bulgaria, Poland and Czechoslovakia, taking part in the Intercosmos programme, are working on this project, which is planned for 1989.

Soviet and French specialists are preparing the "Granat" and "Gamma" projects. Their programme includes astrophysical studies which will be conducted from board Soviet satellites placed on a high-apogee and circular orbits. These projects will be carried out in 1988.

"Phobos" will be a major international project. Its purpose will be to study Mars and its satellite Phobos. Two Soviet space vehicles will be launched in the middle of next year. During their orbital flight around Mars remote probing of its surface in the visible, infrared and gamma wave bands will be carried out.

Military

Carrier Rocket Tests in Pacific Planned

LD271246 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1140 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow, 27 Sep (TASS)—In the period 29 September to 8 October launches of carrier rockets will be carried out in the Soviet Union into the areas of the Pacific Ocean limited by:

a radius of 60 nautical miles, with the center having the coordinates 18 degrees 00 minutes northern latitude and 163 degrees 00 minutes western longitude;

a trapezium with coordinates for the vertices of 39 degrees 30 minutes northern latitude and 173 degrees 00 minutes western longitude, 30 degrees 30 minutes northern latitude and 165 degress 15 minutes western longitude, 28 degrees 15 minutes northern latitude and 170 degrees 00 minutes western longitude, 38 degrees 30 minutes northern latitude and 176 degress 00 minutes western longitude.

TASS is authorized to state that to ensure safety the Government of the USSR asks governments of other states using sea and air routes in the Pacific Ocean to give instructions to the relevant organs so that sea and air vessels do not enter these areas nor the airspace over them every day from 0600 to 1900 local time.

Exercises in Transcaucasus 22-27 September

LD222221 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2100 GMT 22 Sep 87

[Text] Troops of the Transcaucasian Military District will hold exercises in the Soviet Union from 22-27 September in the Gardabani, Akstafa, (Gektebe) and Sagaredzho territory of the Transcaucasus. [video shows soldiers meeting local population, distributing flowers and attending folk festival at Sagaredzho in Georgia]

Exercises Continue

LD250925 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 25 Sep 87

[Text] Tbilisi September 25 TASS—During the ongoing exercises of the troops of the Transcaucasian Military District the "western" forces committed to action a reserve and landed airborne troops in the rear of the "eastern" forces to promote the success of an offensive.

Foreign military observers present at the exercises followed the "combat" actions, the landing of the airborne troops and talked with servicemen. They also observed the work to restore the damaged equipment.

Conclude 27 Sep

LD272059 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 27 Sep 87

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS—Troop exercises in the Transcaucasus have ended today. They were held to train the control and cooperation of various arms of the service.

According to the command of the exercises, they were instructive and demonstrated a rise in the field training standards of troops.

The aims set at the exercises have been achieved, and the troops which took part in them are returning to the places of their permanent deployment.

The exercises were attended by observers from 20 states—participants in the Conference on European Security and Cooperation.

Yazov Addresses Military College Meeting

LD312036 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 31 Aug 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] This December the Moscow Higher General Military Command college named after the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, will be 70 years old. [passage omitted]

This evening Army General Yazov, USSR minister of defense, met with students and the officer and teaching staff of this military educational establishment. The meeting was devoted to the beginning of the new academic year. There was a businesslike discussion at the meeting about the tasks of the Soviet military school, its contribution to fulfilling the demands of the party on further raising the combat readiness and discipline of the Armed Forces.

Comrade Yazov addressed the meeting. He answered questions from the students and officers of the college.

Volga MD Air Force Commander Identified

PM250937 [Editorial Report] Moscow *Krasnaya Zvezda* in Russian on 23 September 1987 in its First Edition carries on page 2 under the rubric "Restructuring: The Regimental Link" and under the headline "Beyond the Barrier of the Customary" a 1,800-word article on the training of air force commanders at squadron and regiment level by Hero of the Soviet Union Major General of Aviation V. Pavlov who is identified by the byline as "Air Force Commander [komanduyushchiy vvs] of the Red Banner Volga Military District."